

THE TIMES Tomorrow

Death...
Caroline Moorehead reports on children in the world's front lines... or glory
"Miracles are always a problem," Spectrum meets the saint-makers



Earning...
The film industry: where the money comes from. A two-page Special Report
Spurs
Stuart Jones previews Tottenham Hotspur's UEFA Cup final first leg match in Brussels

Findings on island crash in a month

The magistrate investigating the Majorca coach crash which killed eight British tourists and a Spanish courier said it would be at least a month before he declared his findings and proposed any charges. **Page 2**

Pound down to \$1.386

US dealers pushed the dollar to a record high against the pound in volatile trading. Sterling dropped to \$1.386 in American markets. **Page 19**

\$250m deal

Seven US chemical companies agreed to set up a \$250m fund to settle claims by Vietnam veterans affected by Agent Orange defoliant. **Back page**

Royal murder

Police are treating the death of Prince Edward, Duke of Kent, as a murder. The body was found washed up with gunshot wounds on the banks of the Seine. **Page 6**

Exams plea

Teachers in Britain's third largest teaching union have asked colleagues to promise to protect pupils facing public examinations from the effects of action over pay. **Page 4**

Test-tube births

Research is being carried out at a London hospital which could lead to the avoidance of multiple births of test-tube babies such as the quadruplets born last week. **Page 2**

Paisley warning

The Rev Ian Paisley has threatened strong Unionist resistance to any plan for joint London-Dublin authority over particular areas of Ulster life. **Page 2**

Naples quake

A strong earthquake shook Naples violently and sent light shock waves throughout Central Italy yesterday, but there were no immediate reports of damage or injuries.

Moscow calls

The Russians have partly restored direct telephone dialling from Western Europe to Moscow after a two-year gap. **Page 6**

Four-goal Rush

Liverpool made almost certain of the League championship by beating Coventry City 5-0. Rush scored four goals to break a Roger Hunt record. **Page 25**

Leader page, 15

Letters: On education, from Mr. D. Emms, and Professor G. Williams; cable firms, from Mr. P. Haggard and others; tax rates, from Mrs M. Woolley. Leading articles: Harry S. Truman; Botha's visit; Thames barrier. **Page 15**

Features, pages 10, 11, 14

Making the universities cost-efficient; public v private, the widening pay gap; when charity bites the bullet. Spectrum: an interview with Saul Bellow. Fashion: going Stateside. Computers, pages 21-23. Compuspeak doomed: a plea for 'print-outs, m'lud; the technology challenge for Sir Michael Edwards. **Page 16**

Obituary, page 16

Dr J. C. Smith, Mr William Colman.

Home News	2-4	Crossword	10
Overseas	4-6	Events	30
Arts	6-8	Science	15
Books	8-10	Sport	24-26
Business	10-12	Unemployment	16
Chess	12	Weather	30

Miners threaten Ravenscraig's iron ore supplies

By Barrie Clement and Ronald Faux

Militant miners yesterday threatened to starve the beleaguered Ravenscraig steelworks of iron ore after convoys of lorries evaded 1,000 pickets by using a rear entrance.

After a day of violence in which 31 pitmen were arrested, leaders of the National Union of Mineworkers are to approach the train drivers' union, Aslef, urging it to extend sympathy action.

Meanwhile, in a May Day rally at Mansfield, Mr Arthur Scargill, union president, called on the rail unions to extend their proposed action over pay into an all-out stoppage in alliance with the miners.

At Ravenscraig, however, the fragility of the labour movement's solidarity was exposed as the heaviest picketing yet failed to stop lorry drivers taking "black" coal into the works.

About 1,000 demonstrators faced a similar number of police. Scuffles broke out and stones, bricks and bottles were thrown as pickets tried to surge through.

One policeman suffered a suspected broken collar bone and several pickets were led away bleeding.

But while miners were confronting the police outside the main gate, 29 lorries, carrying coal from the Hunterston terminal in Ayrshire, were passing through the poorly-guarded rear entrance.

Later a second convoy of 29

lorries swept past a dozen forlorn pickets.

Now pitmen's leaders are calling for an even bigger picket today, requesting reinforcement from colleagues in the north of England.

Earlier, there were 23 arrests at Hunterston as pickets tried to prevent the convoy from leaving.

Ravenscraig has become the focal point of the miners' action since the split in the so-called triple alliance of rail, steel and coal unions over how much coal the plant requires to prevent permanent damage to coke ovens. The steelmen say it needs two trainloads, the miners say one.

After clashes outside the plant, Mr Mick McGahey, Scottish president of NUM, left for talks with Aslef saying: "We are pleased at the show of strength, but there will be more to come."

"We are going to increase picketing and we will be calling for assistance from Northumbria, Durham and Yorkshire."

But if they are to be successful the strikers will have to persuade 34,000 miners in Nottinghamshire to join the stoppage, now in its ninth week.

Mr Scargill's speech in Mansfield was his fourth attempt in two weeks to recruit the support of the county's miners, most of whom continue to work.

The organizers of yesterday's march and rally originally

estimated 10,000 striking miners would take part, but police put the number at 2,000.

Mr Scargill, in a speech at the Mansfield Leisure Centre, said: "I know that the NUM and Aslef are not only pressing for a wage increase, they are also fighting against the threat of redundancies."

"I would appeal to both the NUM and Aslef that if ever there was a time to join with this union, not merely in an expression of solidarity, but to come out on strike in support of their own claim to join it with ours - now is the time."

In South Wales, miners' leaders are due to meet representatives of cokermen today to ensure emergency supplies for Llanwern steelworks.

Mr Emlyn Williams, president of the South Wales area, is confident he can persuade his members to change their minds and allow coke deliveries to the plant. That will ensure furnace linings do not crack.

The pit strike received the full backing yesterday of Mr Roy Hattersley, the Labour Party's deputy leader, but he added that to win they must get public support.

Mr Hattersley told 600 pitmen at Seaham, Durham, that he had been advised that arguing the miners' case had damaged the labour movement. But he and other party leaders would continue to voice support because the case was just.

Photograph, page 2

Foot tells of 'resign' demands

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Mr Michael Foot seriously considered resigning as Labour leader before last June's general election - in which Labour suffered one of its worst defeats.

In his keenly awaited book about the general election, to be published next month, Mr Foot is expected to describe the pressures on him from party colleagues and trade union leaders to step down because of his apparent unpopularity with the voters, and his reasons for resisting those pressures.

In his analysis of the poll defeat, Mr Foot, who was succeeded by Mr Neil Kinnock last September, concedes that at the time after Mrs Margaret Thatcher called the election did Labour have a realistic chance of winning. Its main hope was that it would narrow the huge gap with the Tories and was shocked by its failure to do so.

In his book, *Another Heart and Other Pulses*, Mr Foot will lay a share of the blame on his predecessor, Mr James Callaghan, for contributing to the size of Labour's defeat.

He regarded Mr Callaghan's rejection, in a speech in Cardiff on May 25, of Labour's non-nuclear defence policy as the most damaging episode of the campaign for Labour.

He still regards Mr Callaghan's failure to take an equally strong line over the Government's handling of arms control talks with the Soviet Union.

Although many Labour MPs and Shadow Cabinet members apparently wanted Mr Foot to stand down, particularly at the time of its devastating reverse in the Barnsley by-election, it is clear that few told him so in his face.

A report that one who did was Mr Jeffrey Rooker, Labour MP for Birmingham, Perry Barr and a front-bench spokesman on Treasury affairs, was confirmed yesterday by *The Times*. Mr Rooker's suggestion was made at a meeting between two men in late 1982.

The book will apparently confirm that during the 1983 campaign Mr Gerald Kaufman also suggested that Mr Foot should stand down.

Alliance focuses on Thatcher style

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Liberal/Social Democratic Party Alliance, yesterday made Mrs Margaret Thatcher's personal style of government and the damage that the Alliance alleges it has caused to Britain's interests in the European Community a central issue in the campaign for the elections to the European Parliament on June 14.

In so doing its leaders made clear that they are launching a fresh attempt to woo disaffected moderate Conservative voters to the Alliance. The election strategy of the Alliance, buoyant after its performance in local elections and parliamentary by-elections last week, was outlined by Mr David Steel and Dr David Owen at a briefing for its European candidates in London. Dr Owen said that the country was tired of Mrs Thatcher being "the nation's nanny," and accused her of being a bad bargainer for Britain.

Mr Steel, who is in charge of the Alliance's European campaign, said there was a constituency of former Conservative voters "who are starting to rebel against the style and content of this Government". Dr Owen remarked: "There has been too much naked nationalism in British politics in recent years, fuelled by the style of the present Government."

He spoke of the feeling that Mrs Thatcher was the only one who never makes an error. "That is the reason why the other countries in the community might find it difficult to deal with her. She is always right and they are always wrong."

In European negotiations there had to be give-and-take, Dr Owen said.

Mr Steel told the candidates: "We are faced with a short-sighted government which seems incapable of rising above its narrow and nationalistic preoccupations with the budgetary balance."

Both leaders said that the Alliance's vote last week was far higher than the opinion polls had been suggesting.

Dr Owen said that the miners' dispute might well proceed throughout the European campaign. Candidates would not lose votes by being quite open with the electors, particularly in mining constituencies. There was a great future for the mining industry, but it was not to be achieved by following the route laid down by Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president.

Shia leader offered wider powers

From Our Correspondent, Beirut

President Gemayel yesterday expanded the ministerial portfolio offered to Mr Nabih Berri in an effort to lure the Shia Muslim leader into his "national unity" Government.

An official at the Beirut home of the Shia leader said he has accepted the offer but there was no immediate official announcement by Mr Berri. As word of the new assignment began circulating in Beirut, Shia Muslim fighters in the southern districts of Bourj el-Barrajneh and Moscheibeh ran into the streets carrying posters

of Mr Berri and firing their automatic rifles in the air in his honour.

However, at about the same time, fighting along the "green line" that divides the city into Muslim and Christian halves flared up after a relatively calm 24-hour period. Police said one Lebanese soldier was killed and at least 13 people were injured by sniper and shell fire in the initial exchanges.

Under Mr Gemayel's latest offer, Mr Berri would be given the State Ministry for South Lebanon and for reconstruction



The Pope meeting a colourful tribesman at Port Moresby.

Later date urged for May Day

The English Tourist Board said yesterday that the May Day holiday should be moved to June or September because too many Bank holidays fall together.

A spokesman for the board said that the closeness of Easter and the May and spring Bank holidays were affecting the tourist trade.

He said there was no special reason why the May holiday should be in May. "It was brought in as a labour or workers' day, by the Labour Party, when they were last in office."

"But it is celebrated on different dates all over the world. The American Labour Day is on the first Monday in September. It seems to be only the eastern block which sticks rigidly to May 1."

A May Day in, say, mid-June or September would spread out holidays, and would also combine with school holidays, he said.

Next year Easter Sunday is on April 7, May Day is on May 6, and the spring bank holiday on May 27.

Meanwhile yesterday's biting winds meant that many Britons spent this Bank holiday at home. Beaches and promenades were almost deserted and high winds of up to force eight were recorded at Newhaven, Shoreham and Fairlight coastguard stations on the Sussex coast.

According to the RAC traffic to the south coast resorts of Brighton, Eastbourne, Worthing and Hastings was no heavier than normal weekend.

The International Garden Festival at Liverpool was crowded on both Sunday and Monday, and there are early signs that financial targets will easily be beaten. The Castle Howard stately home in Yorkshire was very busy, with a three-mile traffic queue. In Wales the Welsh mountain zoo at Colwyn Bay took record receipts.

Pope speaks Pidgin to greet Papuans

From Jim Oran, Port Moresby

In the steamy heat of a Port Moresby twilight, the Pope delighted a welcoming crowd of 10,000 on his arrival from South Korea yesterday when he spoke in three languages known throughout Papua New Guinea.

In Pidgin he said: "My brothers and sisters, beloved people of Papua New Guinea. I love you. I am happy to be with you in your own country. Today is a day of great joy for me."

In Motu, the language of the Port Moresby area, he said: "From ancient times your ancestors have inhabited this land and loved its beauty, and I am happy to be here with you today. I come as your friend, I come as your brother."

And in English, he said: "As you know, this is not the first time that I have set foot on your land. Over 10 years ago, when I was still Archbishop of Krakow, I already had the pleasure of being in your midst."

"I still remember well the beauty of the landscape and the warmth of your hospitality. I recall, too, the rich diversity of your citizens, how you are composed of many different tribes, each with its own history and traditions."

The crowd bellowed its approval. The Kandju drums did the same, echoing round the hills surrounding Jackson's airport.

The Pope had the people in his hands from the moment he stepped out of his Alitalia DC10.

El Salvador victory for Duarte

Señor Napoleón Duarte has won El Salvador's presidential election by a smaller margin than expected.

With 70 per cent of the vote counted, he leads with 55 per cent to the 45 per cent of his right-wing rival, Major Roberto D'Aubuisson. Although the result is not official, it is beyond doubt.

Major D'Aubuisson has pledged to accept it, withdrawing charges of vote-rigging, which may persuade his more extreme supporters against taking bloody retribution.

In the other Latin American presidential polls, Señor León Febres Cordero, the conservative millionaire, has claimed victory in Ecuador and both candidates in Panama, where counting continues, believe they have won.

Señor Febres Cordero beat the favourite Social Democrat, Señor Rodrigo Borja, and pledged to rescue the oil-rich nation from a severe economic slump. **Full story, page 6**

Ayatollah's dress order upsets London bank girls

By Barrie Clement, Labour Reporter

British women working in Iran's biggest bank in London have been enraged by an attempt to force them to conform to Ayatollah Khomeini's fundamentalist tastes in female clothing.

Women employed at the Bank Mellat Iran in the City have been told that if by today they do not adopt the "modest attire" commensurate with the principles of Islam, they will be sent home.

Most of the 50 female staff are British and "quite irate" at the bank's order, said Mr John Townsend, negotiating officer

for the Banking Insurance and Finance Union yesterday. A manager has told the women to cover their heads and arms and to wear "minimal make-up". A memo to the effect has been promised, but not yet delivered and it is felt that today's deadline may be extended to allow these new strictures to "sink in".

But the bank, like four others in London, is state-controlled and the union believes that the Mullahs in Tehran are determined to impose their ideas of decency on their Western employees.

"Quite obviously the women are going to ignore the new rules," said Mr Townsend, although his optimism is

tempered by the fact that a small number of British girls employed by a Kensington branch of the bank have reluctantly acceded to a similar demand.

Mr Townsend warned the bank yesterday that if they sent his members home there would immediately be a strike ballot among the remaining men which he was confident would favour a stoppage.

"We would enlist the support of union members throughout London and mount a picket line outside the bank," said Mr Townsend.

"Our advice to the members is to refuse to comply with the request and I suspect most of them will."

He said some trade unionists at the bank regarded a number of senior managers as "head bangers". They had threatened to withdraw the bank from London if there was any trouble.

Many of the women employees have been told they have a very good case for unfair dismissal if they were permanently banned from entering the building, said Mr Townsend.

The union says that there are numerous banks in London owned by Muslim countries by this was the first incident of its kind.

"At the moment we are trying to keep the whole affair low-key and hope there can be an amicable settlement," said Mr Townsend.

Three die and four missing at sea

Three people died and four fishermen were feared dead in three separate incidents off the east and Cornish coast yesterday.

The fishermen, including a father and son, were missing after a boating accident off the east coast. A teenager was swept out to sea at Scarborough and off the Cornish coast, two brothers drowned in a fishing tragedy. Bad sea conditions hampered both rescue attempts by lifeboat services off the east coast.

The fishermen were hauling in crab pots in their 33ft boat, Carol Sandra, half a mile off Scarborough Head when it capsized. Two holidaymakers noticed the smell of diesel, looked over the cliff top and saw the vessel foundering.

Lifeboats and fishing vessels from Bridlington, Filey and Flamborough, and a helicopter from RAF Leconfield spent yesterday searching the area. Wreckage from the cockpit and a number of buoys were recovered. There were four men aboard, and their names are being withheld until their families have been told.

Five men fell overboard while taking part in the search, but were rescued by helicopter.

Lifeboats and a helicopter from the same rescue services recovered the body of a teenage boy, who was believed to have been swept out to sea after climbing the Scarborough sea wall. A lifeboat spokesman said the body was found by the inshore lifeboat near the pier, 300 yards from where he disappeared. Last night, the boy, aged 16 to 18, had not been identified.

Two brothers drowned on a fishing expedition at Portholow on the Lizard peninsula yesterday. Mr Timothy Raby, aged 23, fell into the sea after apparently striking his head while trying to retrieve his rod.

A police spokesman said that his brother, David, aged 20, raised the alarm, dashed to tell another man nearby, and while he rang 999, David went into the sea to try to rescue his brother.

The body of Timothy, who lived in Trelosh Road, Pool, Cambourne, Cornwall, was recovered by helicopter, and the search for that of David, who lived with his parents in Mill Lane, Helston, Cornwall, was not resumed.

The Carol Sandra left Bridlington at 5am. Walkers on the cliff at Flamborough Head spotted the upturned hull at lunchtime.

The Coastguard spokesman said: "Pieces of wreckage have been found close to Flamborough Head. It looks as if the Carol Sandra bashed against the bottom of the cliffs and disintegrated."

The Flamborough lifeboat had to be towed back to Bridlington after developing engine trouble. Winds in the area were gusting at 20 to 25 knots.

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From Richard Ford, Belfast

High Court n

Union left claims poll lead

Mr Wright's supporters believe the Todd camp is trying to create a bandwagon for his candidacy by publicizing these claims.

Caro Kann def. 42 moves: Nunn 1
 Siprawan O. Caro Kann def. 39: Andersson
 accepted against Korchnoi. Queen's gambit
 40: Karpov and against Meier.
 French def. 41: Polugaevsky O Spielman 1
 OP Queen's Ind def. 32 Chandler 1
 Vaganian O. Alekhine def. 56: Ribil
 Torre OGD Slav def. 21 Adjournd
 games, round 7: Korchnoi Torre
 Round 9: Vaganian Andersson
 9: Karpov

Good design at good prices

Clouds on the horizon for Mr Arthur Scargill, addressing a May Day rally in Mansfield yesterday. Another coal convoy making the journey from Hunterston, Strathclyde, to beat miners' pickets at the Ravenscraig steel works.

Phillips Electronic &	1482	JE 6
Assoc Ind	1478	59.1
td Biscuits		

...not know many other people who would certainly have been more suitable."

Edinburgh opens the £460m Thames Barrier, one of the most remarkable feats of British engineering and ingenuity this

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Leading article, page 1
**Taxis to offer
video service**

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BARRIER
GREENWICH

lex: 266265.

In Ghana, Brush is supplying locomotives; and in the

see railways as the backbone of their country's transport system". British Rail's Transmark consultancy says.

in Ghana, Brush is supplying rail cranes to build locomotives; and is

and in the early 1970s, when newly independent countries sought to extend and link up their existing railways.

system". British Rail's Transmark consultancy says.

Tel: 01-4911405. Telex: 266265.

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Crash coach tyres are inspected as island magistrate starts inquiry

From Richard Wigg, Palma

The magistrate investigating the Majorca coach crash, in which eight British tourists were killed and 15 were seriously injured, said yesterday it will be at least a month before he can declare his findings and propose any charges of criminal responsibility.

The 34 survivors of Saturday's pre-dawn crash were said by doctors late yesterday to be progressing satisfactorily, except two who are seriously ill with multiple injuries.

The condition of Mr Roger Brichford, from Wellingborough, Northamptonshire, and Mr Peter Marshall, from Coventry, who are on artificial ventilation, was described only as stationary.

Six of the fifteen who were badly hurt were taken off the serious list yesterday.

Señor Antonio Perello, the magistrate in Manacor, said: "The investigation must go slowly because we are trying to establish responsibility for the crash."

He was awaiting an expert's report requested from the Madrid School of Engineers on the condition of the coach's

tyres, which police say may have had a blow-out.

The police have suggested that the Spanish-made Pegaso coach then plunged off the narrow bridge because the driver had lost control.

Speaking for the first time from his bed in Palma's Son Dureta Hospital on the Mallorca television news yesterday, Señor Antonio Vidal, the professional driver of the coach, insisted the cause was mechanical failure.

He denied a suggestion that he had been overworking or might have dozed off momentarily just before the crash. The magistrate has yet to question the driver.

The magistrate said yesterday he also had to examine the state of the coach hired by Horizon Holidays, of Birmingham, which according to its owners was new from the manufacturer's test and entered service at the end of last month.

Señor Carlos Martín Plasencia, Majorca's civil governor, when tackled on the same news programme whether some island coach drivers did not overwork during the holiday season,

replied that the laws governing their hours were strict.

He refused to endorse any theory of the cause until the investigations are finished.

The governor, who represents the socialist Government in Madrid, is now involved in a controversy with Majorca's autonomous regional government over the accident and the transfer of responsibility for the condition of the Balearic Islands' roads.

Majorca was one of the few new autonomous regions that the socialists did not win in last year's elections and now has a right-wing coalition government.

Majorca's councillor responsible for negotiating the transfer of responsibilities with the central government has blamed Madrid for the delay, which, he said, prevented attention to the road bridge for this season.

The mayor of the area where Saturday's accident occurred had asked in February for Madrid to give priority to widening the bridge.

Yesterday Hoonon's chairman Mr Bruce Tanner, was due to fly out.

Another casualty returns

The second crash casualty, Mr Percy Oxley, aged 45, from Doncaster, South Yorkshire, who received a fractured jaw and vertebrae, returned from Palma to Leeds-Bradford airport.

His wife, Elizabeth, aged 43, was killed in the accident.

Mrs Mary Gates, aged 32, from Letchworth, who was flown home on Sunday, was operated on yesterday at Pinehill Hospital, Hitchin, Hertfordshire. She received a broken jaw, dislocated shoulder and two broken ribs in the accident. Her condition was said to be fairly comfortable.

Her husband Michael, aged 35, was killed on the tour was insured. Horizon does not accept holidaymakers without adequate travel insurance.

Under the standard policy, £15,000 is paid out in the case of death, and £15,000 for the loss of use of an eye, limb, or total disablement.

For a child under 15, £1,000 is the maximum.

There is a £100,000 limit for the cost of medical care.

Mr Keith Purdom, Horizon operations director, said that discussions had been held yesterday about insurance. The company hoped to minimize the administrative problems. Normally a valid claim took about ten days to process.

Seatbelts should be fitted, expert says

An expert on coach design whose daughter was killed in the crash called yesterday for the installation of passenger seatbelts.

Mr Peter Windsor-Smith, former chief engineer of Daimler Transport Vehicles, said: "From television film it is quite clear that all the seats remained in position in the crash, but unless people are wearing a seatbelt, they can be catapulted to the front of the bus or even fly out of the window."

"What is needed is a car or aircraft-type belt. Of course, some people may want to walk up or down a bus but the law should insist on belts at dangerous sections of the road, or on motorways when buses or coaches travel at great speeds."

Mr Windsor-Smith, aged 62, from Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire, left the company in 1971 to set up his own business.

His daughter, Miss Susanna Windsor-Smith, aged 19, died, and her fiancé, Mr Mark Gamble, aged 25, from Houghton-on-the-Hill, Leicestershire, was seriously injured.

No country in Europe has installed seat belts in coaches.

They are opposed on two grounds: that passengers will object or forget to wear them, and that they are not effective.

Mr Dennis Quin, director general of the Bus and Coach Council, said that the best restraint was the seat in front, and these were designed to take very strong forces.

He said that Britain and Hungary had the strictest regulations for coaches.

But the Economic Commission for Europe, part of the United Nations, and to which Spain is a signatory, is examining bus and coach safety.

A working group has studied stability, roof strength, seat mountings, and maximum weights and loadings. It is up to each signatory to implement recommendations.

The group aims to draw up test rules or criteria for the bodyshell of coaches by the end of this year.

Mr Quin said several improvements had been made recently, but none appeared relevant to the Spanish accident. The roof strength of coaches had been improved, but not even an inch-high steel plate roof could have protected the Spanish coach, it was reported, it had fallen from between 40 and 90ft.

He said that more rigid window would obviously be stronger, but sometimes they were the only means of escape. Stability was not in question in the accident, he said.



Fund-raisers: Anna Ford with her daughter Claire and George the Clown opening a fête yesterday to raise money for the Log Cabin adventure playground for the disabled at West Ealing, west London. (Photograph: Ros Drinkwater).

Hunt after sex attack on boy

The police were searching yesterday for a man who dragged a boy aged nine, into some empty flats, strangled him and sexually assaulted him.

The attacker, with the words "Big Arthur" on his black leather jacket, had approached the boy as he played in the road in Slough, Berkshire.

The police are also seeking a man calling himself "The Rat", who telephoned them shortly after the attack claiming in a slurred voice to have information.

Electricity board in £6m rebate move

By David Young

The London Electricity Board is hoping to trim its rates bill by £6m a year and pass the saving on to customers.

The board hopes the Government accept an amendment, now being put to the House of Lords, under which the system of charging electricity boards rates will be changed.

Since the early 1950s the 12 area electricity boards in England and Wales, of which the London Electricity Board has always been the largest, have paid rates on overhead lines, transformer stations and

underground cables on a shared system based on market share.

However, as London has gradually lost its large industrial customers, the area boards, particularly in the southern and eastern regions have grown. The formula for charging local authority rates has remained unchanged.

The London board, which has a marginally higher tariff because of larger overheads, is trying to have the statutory rules governing the electricity supply industry changed so that the rates can be more fairly shared.

Minor roads seriously neglected report says

By Michael Bailey
Transport Editor

Britain's minor roads are being seriously neglected although they make up the greater part - nearly 300,000 out of 345,000 kilometres of the national road network, according to an report by the country's highway engineers.

It would take more than a century to repair them properly at present rates of progress, the Institute of Municipal Engineers says, but long before then many will have suffered total collapse.

Heavy lorries are the main culprits, and unlike on motorways and major roads, the problems they cause are not being dealt with. In rural areas, roads giving access to villages and small towns are suffering from severe rutting because they are too small for the lorries that use them.

The problem can be caused by relatively few lorries, and it is primarily a matter of width, the report says. Lorry wheels which overrun the edge of the road put an "intolerable strain" on the carriageway edge which "fails".

On secondary urban roads damage by lorries to pavements is the most serious cause of deterioration together with trench-digging for gas, electricity, and water works and the average expenditure for all UK highway authorities on remedial work after damage by lorries is nearly 17 per cent of the total.

"This is a very serious situation, and the institution recommends that the police and highway authorities be more rigorous in their attempts to stop the practice of running on footpaths and claim damages where cases can be proven," the report says.

It concludes that there is an overemphasis on maintaining motorways and trunk roads which, while they present important and immediate problems, account for only four per cent of the country's roads.

Ruling bans treatment by trustee consultants

By Nicholas Timmins
Social Services
Correspondent

Consultants who are directors or trustees of private hospitals with charitable status must not treat patients in them privately, the Charity Commissioners have ruled.

The ruling is likely to mean that consultants will have to resign as directors or trustees of at least a dozen private acute hospitals, the Association of Independent Hospitals says.

Appeals have also been made to the General Medical Council and to the British Medical Association to rule that consultants should not be allowed to invest in non-charitable private hospitals and then treat patients in them.

The association's members include big groups such as Nuffield and American Medical International hospitals and small nursing homes. Its administrator, Mr John Randle, said yesterday that at least a dozen charitable private hospitals would be affected by the commissioners' ruling.

He said that it had always been the case under the Charities Act 1960 that there must be no conflict between someone's personal interest in treating patients and his duty as a trustee.

NHS 'needs more women doctors'

More women doctors should be available to treat National Health Service patients, the national council of the Medical Women's Federation said yesterday (the Press Association reports). At its annual meeting in Glasgow it agreed that women doctors should be available for patients.

The federation claims that a disproportionate number of women doctors have difficulty in completing postgraduate training and are forced to take unpopular posts or part-time insecure jobs.

England's first and most successful Enterprise Zone celebrates 3 years hard work

The rebirth of Corby began three years ago when it became a development area. On Monday 22 June 1981 Corby was declared the first Enterprise Zone in the country. This made it possible to offer a bigger, better package of benefits, grants and incentives to all industrialists planning new projects or relocation.

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Voice command system developed for computer

By Matthew May

Getting to grips with the microcomputer age could well become easier with the latest development in the field, the ability to talk to a machine instead of using a keyboard.

The United States software company, Supersoft, has now produced a commercial voice recognition system, Voicedrive, which it is using to write three programs for a computer from Texas Instruments.

Spoken control can be substituted for any combination of the key strokes normally used in a program. Users have to place any word they want recognized in the computer's vocabulary by

repeating it several times. By storing several versions of the word, the computer can allow for any variations in a person's voice.

The speech is converted into digital bits of information so that numbers are substituted for the energy, pitch and voiced or unvoiced timbre of the language. This digital information is broken into 50 frames per second, and every frame is stored.

Up to 50 words can be recognized by the computer instantly, with another 50 available in a quarter of a second.

Wedding of exiled king delayed

The marriage of a young English woman to exiled King Rehad Al-Mahdi of Tunisia has been postponed.

Caroline Mackenzie's mother said yesterday the 36-year-old "king" was suffering from meningitis in hospital.

The stockbroker king met his future "queen-in-exile" at the City firm where they both worked and they became engaged 15 months ago.

Their planned marriage next Saturday near her home in Sherborne St John's, Hampshire, was hailed as the "wedding of the week" in the latest edition of *Woman* magazine.

Miss Mackenzie, an Oxford graduate, who was unavailable for comment yesterday, met him in November 1982.

Billy Graham leaves hospital

Dr Billy Graham, the American evangelist, left the Royal Masonic Hospital, west London, yesterday after a successful sinus operation.

Dr Graham launches Mission England, his biggest crusade for 20 years, in Bristol on Saturday.

TV man better

Cliff Michmore, the television personality who was admitted to the East Surrey Hospital, Redhill, last week after a suspected heart attack, should be well enough to leave "in a day or two," the hospital said yesterday.



Word power: Using a speech command system the computer operator's hands are free for other tasks.

Memorial for police killed on duty

By Robin Young

Woman Police Constable Yvonne Fletcher, who was shot outside the Libyan People's Bureau, and other police officers killed in the course of duty, will be commemorated by a charity whose formation is announced today.

Mr Michael Winner, a prominent film director, has set up the Police Memorial Trust as the result of the public response to a letter he wrote to *The Times* and subsequent publicity elsewhere.

He said yesterday that he had received about a hundred letters supporting his idea that mem-

orials should be raised to police officers killed on duty. Two-thirds of the letters included gifts of money which totalled nearly £600 already.

A policeman's wife from West Yorkshire wrote describing Mr Winner's scheme as "a real morale booster for the younger policeman and their wives and families as I think they must often wonder, after the flak they have received during the picket line demonstrations, whether it is all worth it."

Another gift came from an

American tourist on holiday in Scotland.

Mr Winner said yesterday that he knew of 35 police officers killed on duty in the past 12 years.

"We would be happy to commemorate victims of the past 15 or 20 years, and if there is money left over our trust deeds enable us to make payments to the dependents of police victims," he said.

The address of the Police Memorial Trust, to which contributions may be sent, is 6-8 Sackville Street, London, W1X 1DD.

Blame for glue craze rejected by traders

Blame for the glue-sniffing craze should not be placed on small shopkeepers, the annual conference of the National Association of Shopkeepers was told by its president, Mr Gordon McDonnell, in Llundidno yesterday.

Mr McDonnell said: "We are responsible individuals running family concerns and know most of our customers."

"It is just not true that we are to blame in any way for this social problem of solvent abuse."

"What is required is co-operation between ourselves, manufacturers, social workers, police, parents and schools."

But the ideal solution is for manufacturers to bring out a product which is safe. We are told there is the technology to do so.

Mr McDonnell also criticized manufacturers for giving unfair discounts to supermarkets.

He said: "We believe the manufacturers are pressurized into this, and groceries and tobacco are two of the items we complain about."

"It is really putting the squeeze on the corner shops, and in addition the big stores are breaking all the rules about opening hours."

Union asks all teachers to protect exam pupils from pay protests

By Colin Hughes

Teachers were urged by Britain's third largest teaching union yesterday to agree to protect pupils facing public examinations from the effects of industrial action.

The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association, with 90,000 members, made a special plea to members of the two largest teaching unions to safeguard the prospects of teenagers whose futures depend on results gained at CSE and CSE examinations being held during the next few weeks.

Miss Doreen Jones, the association's president, said: "We will gain nothing by penalizing our pupils for the wrong-headed obstinacy of their political elders. Nor must we do anything to allow the public to question the sincerity of our concern for the long-term interests of children and the education service."

"We have advised our own members to withdraw goodwill and are currently conducting a national ballot on the withdrawal of cover."

"But we are pledged to do nothing to jeopardize the

conduct of the public exams thousands of boys and girls will sit this term."

Mr Peter Smith, general secretary, said the association was reacting to "sabre-rattling" at the weekend by militants in the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, who wanted to intensify action over the pay dispute by disrupting examinations.

Even if the noises being made about refusing to invigilate examinations were empty threats, they still create an atmosphere of uncertainty imposing an unacceptable strain on examination candidates, Mr Smith said.

Prejudicing children's prospects would be counter-productive and would forfeit public sympathy for the teachers' understandable frustration over the employers' refusal to go to arbitration.

The other union's leaders had a responsibility to say firmly that "whatever else happens, parents and pupils can be confident that nothing will

interfere with the exams", Mr Smith said.

Both those unions have so far ruled out action specifically aimed at examinations but they are allowing the threat to be held in reserve.

Mr Smith said such ambiguity carried the risk that the teacher's volatile mood would provoke unofficial action by local branches which wished to go further and disrupt examinations.

Tomorrow's one-day national strike by the National Union of Teachers which has 235,000 members, provides the first full-scale test of support for the action over a 4.5 per cent pay offer.

The union's branches will be balloted on proposals for stepping up the action.

On Friday, the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, agreed on selective lightning strikes aimed at vulnerable schools and prominent local authorities but it is keeping details of its targets secret.

Pay slip p. 2, page 14

Whitehall brief

By Peter Hennessy and Rodney Cowton

Point Mr Michael Heseltine at a big bureaucracy and he salivates. Which is the main reason the Prime Minister sent him to the Ministry of Defence (MoD) as Secretary of State 17 months ago. Tackling the Department of the Environment as its Secretary of State had merely been a limbering up for the big match.

Mr Heseltine brought his personal tool kit known as MINIS (management information system for ministers) across Whitehall with him in 1983. The result is a pile of paper 18in thick, which outsiders cannot see for security reasons. It is called MINIS 1.

Its visible outcome is Mr Heseltine's proposals for streamlining the chiefs of staff organization and merging it with the civilian defence secretariats. It is bold, it is clear and it trends where no secretary of state has dared to go since General Sir Ian Jacob and the late Lord Ismay suggested something similar in 1963.

In a letter published in *The Times* yesterday, Admiral of the Fleet Sir Henry Leach criticized proposals to vest all real power in the Chief of Defence Staff, rather than the Chiefs of Staff Committee. He said that the man would be easier to override or be replaced.

Sir Henry also criticized the idea of stripping single Service departments of their policy and

operational requirements staff and centralizing them.

"Within any one Service it is already hard enough to acquire the necessary theory and consolidate it by practical experience in the field at the various levels of a career to maintain the professional expertise on which so much depends. We tamper with that expertise at our peril."

The more dedicated Heseltine watchers inside Whitehall harbour an uncharitable suspicion that it represents an attempt by the Secretary of

State for Defence at practising a deception comparable with that which misled Hitler into believing the Allies were going to invade the Pas de Calais rather than Normandy in 1944.

Their thesis is that MINIS 1 failed to find any real savings in the military, civilian and scientific bureaucracies of MoD and some headline-catching surrogate had to be found: hence the assault on the single-service traditions and structures at the top of the military hierarchy.

That view infuriates Mr Heseltine's helpers who con-

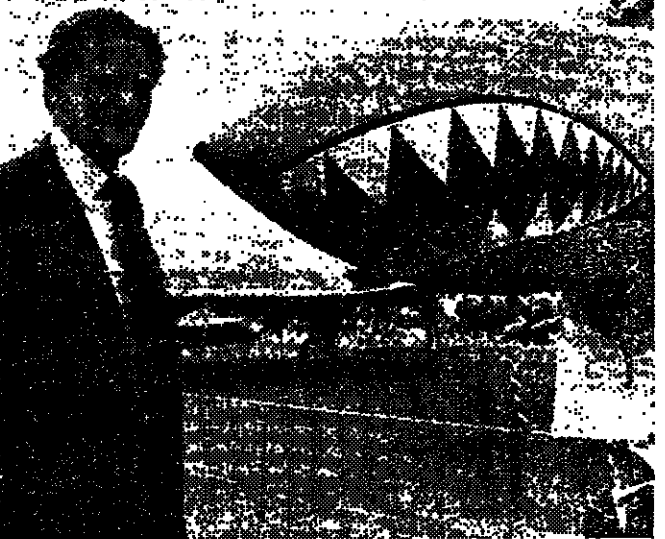
tinued MINIS 1. They see it as an "enabling act" which will allow Mr Heseltine to flush out the real problems in defence.

Things have changed, they insist, since 1964 when the War Office, Admiralty and Air Ministry were merged into a single MoD and no savings resulted until the harsher climate of the 1970s. Since 1974 the size of MoD headquarters has come down by a quarter.

MINIS, counter the sceptics, does not bite unless it gets down to executive officer level, the workhorse grade, in a ministry as it did when Mr Heseltine pioneered it at the Department of the Environment. The MoD MINIS-men admit their exercise penetrated directly only to assistant secretary level and that Mr Heseltine was able to interview no more than half of the 156 under secretaries or their military equivalents who were designated as MINIS officers.

Unlike the post-1964 experience, savings will begin to "fall out" as the system runs in. MINIS 2, for example, unlike its precursor, will investigate front-line commands.

Has Mr Heseltine knitted together, with his customary flair, a piece of first-class camouflage? Or is his managerial revolution at MoD really under way? He has a chance to convince the sceptics next Monday when he presents his 1984 Defence White Paper to Parliament.



Biting study: Mr Heseltine with a Phantom aircraft at Greenham air base.

Party organization: 2

Dispelling doubts with determination

While the Social Democrats seek new members and the Liberals decentralize, Labour seek a new style under its new leadership, ANTHONY BEVINS, Political Correspondent, describes how Labour's machine has reacted to defeat.

No political party has changed as much as Labour since the last election. Mr Jim Mortimer, the party's general secretary, says that the scale of defeat, "with our backs to the wall", was the catalyst.

The biggest change of all was heralded by Mr Neil Kinnock in a leadership campaign speech in Stoke-on-Trent last September, when he spoke of a desire to turn away from the party's "pre-occupation with the minutiae of constitutional argument" towards the struggle with "the real enemies", the Tories and the Alliance.

Since his election as leader, Labour has gone quiet on policy controversies and on organizational conflict. The golden silence is being weighed in improved opinion poll ratings. No Labour leader volunteers debate about the future of the nuclear deterrent, any more than anyone proposes action against the Militant MPs. Trouble-making newspapers and journalists are to be shunned.

Instead, the party has diverted its attention and its abundant energies into direct, meet-the-people campaigns, the traditional "caravans and cartoons" which are being used to promote Labour's broad-brush image.

Mr Mortimer says that Mrs Margaret Thatcher has shown that determination can win over the doubters.

"The breast-beating is out. Determination is very important. If we can show confidence in each other, then we can be coherent and that will overcome the doubters' misgivings."

It is a formula which worked well in Chesterfield and Cynon Valley, though Stafford and Surrey South West undid the scale of the task ahead.

The determination and the coherence are being mobilized behind specific campaigns on the National Health Service, local government democracy and the European Assembly elections, which Mr Kinnock has marked down

as the turning point in Labour's electoral fortunes.

But Mr Mortimer says that the message is particularly aimed at the CIs, the white collar trade unionists, the millions of "natural" Labour voters who failed to back the party at the last election.

Market research is being used as part of a more sophisticated approach towards the electorate, and Market and Opinion Research International polling earlier this year showed that while Labour support among ABCs had increased by 11 per cent since the election, it still stood at only 24 per cent, 30 percentage points behind the Tories.

"The big task is to win over the CIs," Mr Mortimer says. The Labour weakness, presumably identified by private pollsters, is inflation policy. "These people are not directly affected by unemployment, but they are affected by inflation."

But if Labour is to switch all its efforts into a united, nationwide strategy of campaigning on issues which score points off its opponents, other activities, such as delicate policy debate and wasteful organization, will have to be curtailed.

The party has balanced its accounts in only two of the last 15 years.

Over the past 18 months there has been a net cut of about 10 in the overall staff of 130, but the party has not appointed a fund-raiser to bolster its £4m annual income and it is going to take on a sales and marketing officer to raise revenue and sell the Labour message.

Membership is currently put at about 270,000, "slightly up". But then the party has only another 12 months to achieve Mr Kinnock's own Stoke target of another quarter million members within 18 months, "not a pious hope, given the problems that the British people will face". It is indeed a tough test.

Tomorrow: The Conservatives.

Riding along on the crest of Jesse Jackson's wave

More black pride, but black power unlikely

From Trevor Fishlock New York

The Jesse Jackson whirlwind has blown its way through New York, but the excitement lingers on. The Jackson effect caused a record turn-out of blacks in the recent Democratic primary, underlined the importance of voter registration and renewed the debate about the chances of New York electing a black mayor.

Four of the six largest cities of the United States, Chicago, Los Angeles, Detroit and Philadelphia, are run by black mayors and it is understandable that the blacks should think seriously of voting a black into the job of chief New Yorker.

Certainly, expectations have been heightened. Blacks form about a quarter of the city's population, but their vote in the primary was a third of the total. There can be no doubt that the phenomenal personality of Mr Jackson raised hopes and, by the by, increased self-esteem in the black community.

Resentment of Mr Koch surfaced in its most public form in the black and Spanish speaking district of Harlem last year, during hearings on allegations of police brutality.

Mayor Koch is familiar with black resentment of himself and his administration. He points out that three previous New York administrations, all known as sensitive to black aspirations, had racial troubles and rioting. Under his rule there has been no trouble on the streets.

He has partly quietened the grumbling by appointing a black police commissioner. It is one of the city's toughest jobs. But it is an appointed job, and that



Mayor Koch and his police chief, Mr Benjamin Ward, at this year's St Patrick's parade.

There is no doubt, either, that many blacks would like to see Mayor Edward Koch defeated when he runs for a third term of office next year. They think about him as they think about President Reagan, that he has a down on them. They think that both men lack compassion.

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reminds blacks that no black or Hispanic holds a major elective position in New York, and that, however seductive and exciting the Jackson effect, they are a long way from getting the big prize.

In the first place there are not enough of them. In this most polyglot of American cities, where a quarter of the people were born abroad, a black

precisely that: it was created by a particular, remarkable personality. There is no one in New York at the moment who could excite people in the same way.

Some black politicians see sense in backing a liberal white candidate who might run against Mayor Koch and bring him down. But the special excitement that would be stirred by a black candidate would be missing, and many blacks might not be so moved to vote.

In any case, many thoughtful politicians, black and white, see dangers in polarizing the vote, in creating a situation in which blacks are pressed to vote only for blacks, and vice versa.

Mr Jackson's progress through New York put new fizz into the city's politics. Blacks feel strengthened, and their bargaining power may have increased. The big prize is a long way off, but it was not all that long ago that racial discrimination kept black men from even dreaming of it.

Concluded

Another communist bastion falls in Paris Red Belt

From Diana Geddes Paris

The succession of Communist electoral defeats in France continued at the weekend with the loss of another former stronghold in the disintegrating "Red Belt" around Paris. Noisy-le-Grand in Seine St Denis was the sixth big town of more than 30,000 inhabitants lost by the Communists since the municipal elections just over a year ago.

The Communists, who managed to cling to Noisy-le-Grand by 150 votes in the March 1983 elections, obtained only 37 per cent of the vote in Sunday's by-election, held after annulment of the earlier results due to fraud. The Gaullist party *Rassemblement pour la République*, which won 53 per cent of the vote, now takes over control.

Two other important municipal by-elections are due on May 20 in Houilles, also on the outskirts of Paris, and in Thionville in Moselle, because of cancellation of the earlier results after electoral irregularities. Both towns have long been considered Communist fiefs.

The latest results do not bode well for the next important test of the Communists' popularity

in the European parliamentary elections of June 17, when the Communists and Socialists are presenting separate lists. The latest opinion polls give the Communists no more than 12 to 13 per cent of the vote.

Far from winning the Communists greater support, as they had hoped, participation in a Government of the Left has resulted in continued decline and, inevitably, they have become associated with the Government's highly unpopular policies of economic austerity.

With an eye on the European elections, the Communists have recently been raising the tone of their attacks against the Government. The "clarification" of their attitude, called for by President Mitterrand and obtained in the form of a vote of confidence in the Government last month, has manifestly made no difference at all to their conduct.

Never have they been quite so blatantly damning as in their criticisms at the weekend of the announcement by Mr Jacques Delors, the Finance Minister, of the need for even greater budgetary "rigour" next year.

It was a bad policy which was undermining the possibilities for economic recovery, and was

in total disagreement with the joint undertakings made by the Socialists and Communists in June 1981. M. Georges Marchais, the Communist leader, said:

The Finance Minister's plans for a cut by one percentage point, in taxes and compulsory levies of next year (as promised by President Mitterrand himself) was a "sham", he added. It would simply involve taking a little less out of one pocket in order to take a lot more out of another.

M. Georges Valbon, a member of the Communist Party Central Committee and former head of the national coal industry, said that the Government's policies were leading the country to "a political and economic catastrophe". M. Henri Krasucki, leader of the Communist-led CGT union, called on workers to rise up against the Government's "unacceptable" policies which were, he said, undoing the social gains achieved over the previous two years.

Despite this new head-on clash between the Communists and Socialists, the Communists still insist they have no intention of leaving the Government.

Life sentence for Baader gang member

Stuttgart (Reuters) - Jürgen-Peter Boock, an urban guerrilla, was sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday for complicity in the former Baader-Meinhof gang's killing of a banker and a businessman seven years ago.

Altogether the court gave Boock, aged 32, four separate life terms for the murders of the President's Bank chief Jürgen Ponto; Hanns-Martin Schleyer, a businessman, and Herr Schleyer's four bodyguards.

He also received a 15-year jail term for his part in setting up a multiple rocket launcher aimed at the federal prosecution building in Karlsruhe in 1977, which failed.

His lawyer, who gave notice of appeal, had asked for clemency, saying that Boock had broken away from West Germany's urban guerrilla movement in 1980 and had acted under the influence of drugs.

The court rejected a claim that Boock had only been a "useful idiot".

Sikh militants arrested and village leader killed

Delhi (AP) - Sikh rebels assassinated a village leader yesterday as the Government announced that 22 militants had been arrested and 13 firearms seized in the town of Moga.

Meanwhile, followers of the two main Sikh leaders, Sant Jarnail Bhindranwale and Sant Harchand Longowal, exchanged gunfire inside a shrine in Kapurthala district in Punjab. The rival leaders fell out last month and accused each other of betraying the Sikh cause. Six people were recently killed in attacks by feuding Sikh groups. Three of the deaths were in the Golden Temple of Amritsar, the holiest Sikh shrine and seat of the militant movement.

Authorities said extremists killed a village leader and seriously wounded his nephew in Punjab's Ferozepur district, south-west of Kapurthala. The Indian Home Affairs Minister, Mr P C Sethi, told Parliament that a swift operation netted 13 weapons and two grenades in the search of three Sikh temples

The search and arrests followed the end of an eight-day siege of the three shrines by troops of India's border force. The shrines were surrounded after eight people were killed in a clash between troops and rebels firing from inside the main city temple. Mr Sethi said 16 extremists were arrested in an earlier operation by police and paramilitary forces.

Amritsar was reported calm yesterday after a two-hour gun battle between Sikhs and police. A Hindu watching the shooting from the terrace of his home was killed and four wounded in the exchange late on Sunday.

Rebel rivals: Seven Hindu organizations in Punjab have merged to counter the Sikh threat and end the killing of Hindus (AFP reports). The decision was taken at a meeting in the industrial town of Ludhiana, attended by 60 Hindu leaders. The organization is called Rashtriya Hindu Suraksha Sena (National Hindu Defence Force).

UN seeks fairer deal for political refugees

From Our Correspondent Geneva

A campaign to press the world's governments to honour their Geneva Convention obligations on political refugees is being launched by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

In the face of recession and unemployment, the UNHCR is concerned that doors are being slammed - or opened only wide enough to eject refugees with legitimate claims to asylum.

Mr Poul Hartling, the High Commissioner, is taking to the road and is described as "being ready to break dishes if

necessary" to impress on officials in the world's capitals that a self-declared political refugee must be given the benefit of the doubt until his asylum claim is fully heard.

In theory, a refugee should not be returned to a country where he has reasonable grounds to fear persecution. Nor should he be refused entry and simply be put on the next flight out, with the destination irrelevant.

In practice, the decision often does not reach the courts, but is exercised on the spot by border guards.

A number of cases have

provoked the High Commissioner's concern: Tanzania and Kenya recently exchanged political refugees (30 each); Zambia has returned people to Angola; about 50 Iranians have been sent back to Turkey; and the Thai authorities are harving Vietnamese boat people towed back out to sea, and at least 23 have perished.

Honduras has sent back Guatemalans and Salvadoreans and the United States gives Haitians and Salvadoreans, regarding them as economic migrants, the choice between prolonged detention or being "free to go home". No country

welcomes Palestinians, who, sickened by endless strife, have quit Lebanon or Syria.

Western Europe in general does not send refugees home, but returns them instead to countries of "first asylum" - which may refuse them reentry, so that they go into limbo, the present fate of 13 Iranians shuttled between Pakistan and Hongkong.

The UNHCR is urging governments to contact its nearest office - about 80 worldwide - for interpretation of what it regards as "an imperative role of international law."

Prisoners of conscience



Uruguay: Lucia Arzuaga

By Caroline Moorehead

Lucia Arzuaga, Gilboa, a medical student aged 25, was recovering from an attack of meningitis when she was arrested in June, 1983, held incommunicado for 15 days and reportedly tortured. She was beaten, given electric shock and had her head held in a tank of water. She is also understood to have been threatened with rape, and forced to watch other women prisoners being raped.

Schellina Arzuaga was one of more than 50 university students arrested at the time. She and 24 others were later charged with "subversive association" as suspected members of the Union of Communist Youth, an illegal organization.

She is still awaiting trial in the military prison for women political prisoners, Punta de Bleas, and faces a sentence of between three and 18 years' imprisonment.

While in prison, Señiorita Arzuaga is known to have suffered from severe vomiting and she has been taken to hospital several times for medical tests.

Since the 1970s there have been repeated reports from Uruguay of torture being used to obtain information. It is most often carried out during the first period of detention.



Lucia Arzuaga: Threatened with rape.

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Kohl expected to ride out challenges at party congress

From Michael Mayes, Bonn

Two challenges to the west German Government will dominate the Christian Democrats' congress, which opens in Stuttgart this evening - the likelihood of protracted strikes in the engineering and metal industry, and the growing row over the proposed amnesty for firms accused of tax evasion over donations to party political funds.

A revolt is already threatened in the ranks of the coalition Government over the amnesty. The Free Democrats have had second thoughts, and Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the party leader, has been strongly criticized for approving the plan.

Many Christian Democratic members of the Bundestag are also unhappy about the biting accusations of self-interest levelled at the Government and the decision with which the press has greeted the proposal.

Herr Helmut Kohl, the Chancellor, and his ministers have insisted that the amnesty does not absolve any of the 1,000 companies involved from repaying in full the taxes it owes. Herr Kohl will probably repeat to the congress his conviction that, given the nebulous laws on political donation, most firms did not realize they were doing anything wrong. The amnesty will not affect the investigations and possible trials of those involved in receiving payments from the Flick group of companies.

Herr Kohl will probably ride out any incipient revolt, much as he has weathered other challenges to his authority. His standing in the party is now high, and the murmuring and complaints about his relaxed style of leadership, heard only a few months ago, have all but vanished.

A more serious challenge

faces his Government in the industrial field. The vote by the Stuttgart metalworkers to back their union's call for strikes over the demand for a 35-hour week has shaken the Government. Herr Kohl has given a warning of the serious damage a strike would do to Germany's industrial recovery, and will appeal again to the unions to sit down at the negotiating table.

There will be another ballot today of members of the metalworkers union in the Frankfurt area. The union will decide on Thursday what further steps to take. It is supported in its campaign for a five-hour cut in the working week, without a cut in pay, by the printers union and the big public service union.

The first major industrial conflict since the coalition came to power has caught the Government off guard. There have been no big strikes in Germany since 1978, and the Government appears to have underestimated the unions' militancy on the issue. Their demands have not been softened by the Government's counter-offer of early retirement.

Chancellor Kohl will probably soften his tough stand against any change in the working week, which the union says is the only way to create more jobs and cut unemployment. But he will insist that unemployment has had little success in reducing - will be alleviated only by the long-awaited upturn in the economy. The congress will also discuss the challenge of new technology to German industry and society, and government plans for a tax cut, which entails raising indirect taxes and cutting family benefits and have aroused opposition.



Mr. Richard Sargeant of the Los Angeles Olympic Committee (left) receives the flame from Professor Nissiotis. Right, the torch being lit.

Greeks keep low profile at Olympic flame ceremony

The Olympic Flame was lit in ancient Olympia yesterday and was promptly flown to New York for the twenty-third Olympic Games which open in Los Angeles on July 28.

Escorted by a chorus of 14

young women wearing long beige tunics, and by two flute-players, she carried the Olympic torch to the stadium where the original games were held in antiquity to invoke Zeus's blessing.

There was enough pageantry to preserve the tradition, but despite the presence of a senior Cabinet minister, Greek participation in the ceremony was evidently low key. The tight security measures in the sanctuary, barred to the public for

the day, were a constant reminder of the bitterness and controversy that have surrounded the occasion.

Many Greeks believe the Los Angeles organizing committee is committing sacrilege against the Olympic ideal by authorizing the commercial sponsorship of the relay of the flame over 5,500 miles in the United States at the rate of nearly £1,500 a mile, even though the money will be used for charity.

A boycott staged by the Greek Amateur Athletics Federation, and threats by the local authorities to mar the ceremonies, prompted the Greek Olympic committee to abstain from the lighting ceremony and cancel the relay run over 500 miles to Athens. Plans to transfer the flame via satellite had to be abandoned because of technical difficulties.

Greek resentment over the so-called commercialization of the flame, was evident in

Olympia in the form of a large banner hung above the entrance to the sanctuary which read: "Olympia refuses to give the flame."

Later, as the torch was handed by Professor Nicos Nissiotis, in his capacity as Greek member of the International Olympic Committee, to a delegation of Los Angeles Organizers, a few dozen demonstrators gathered outside the town hall of the modern village of Olympia to protest.

Iran's chief Marxist recants on television

Tehran (AFP) - The leading ideologist of the banned Iranian Communist Party has denounced Marxism and all his own theoretical works on communism.

In a televised "confession" lasting 59 minutes last night, Mr Ehsan Tabari urged viewers to reject his books because they were "full of false information" and everything which had no bearing on Islam was "without value".

As the head of the Tudeh (Communist) Party's ideology section, Mr Tabari had even greater prestige than the party's Secretary General, Mr Nureddin Kianure, who himself made a televised confession last year.

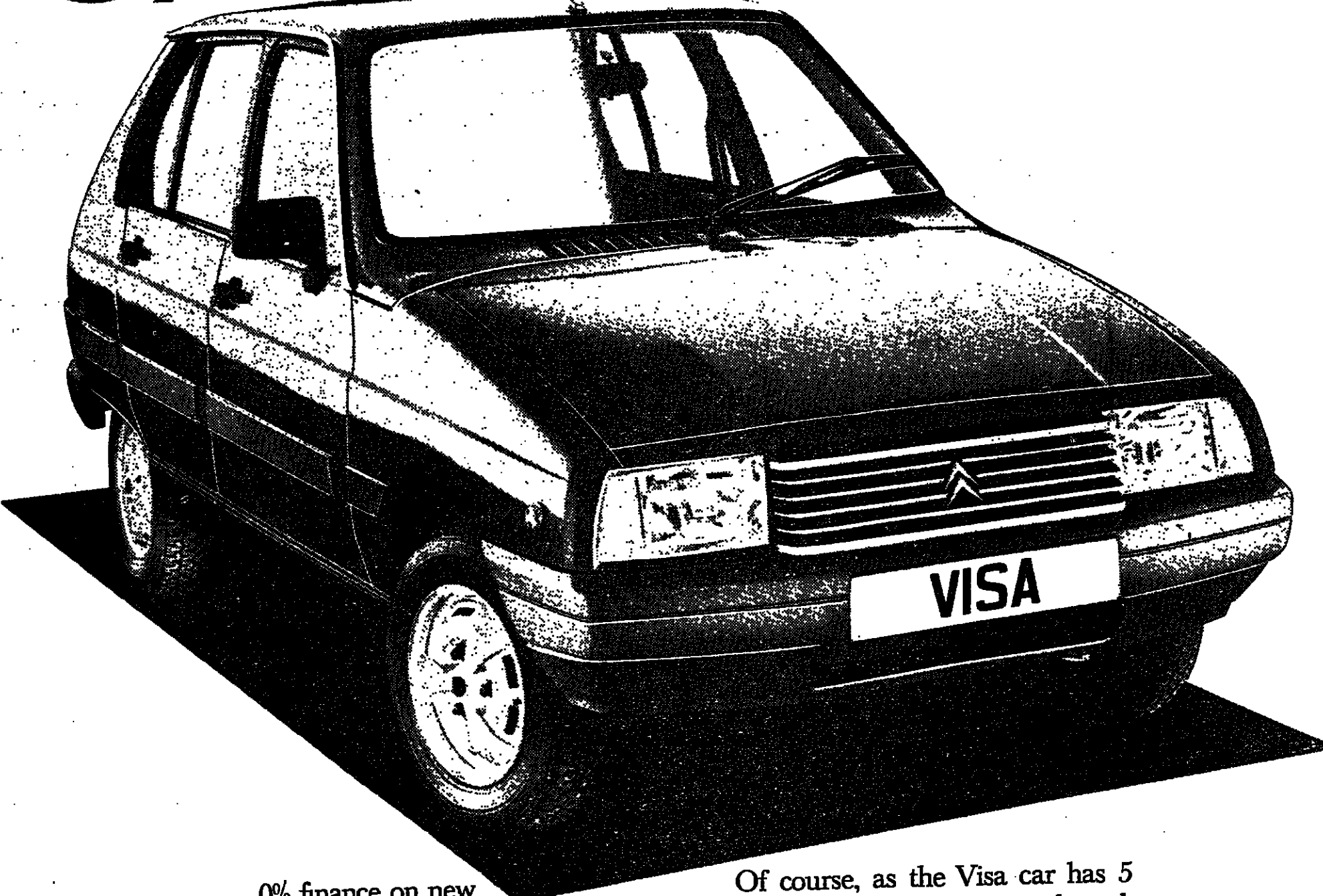
In fact, analysts here have expressed surprise that Mr Tabari had not made a confession earlier, as the rest of the leadership has done since the party was banned in May last year and hundreds of its supporters arrested.

The authorities' explanation for the delay was that Mr Tabari, aged 67, was in hospital after a heart attack. During his televised statement, he looked thinner and older, and asked to be excused for reading from notes "because of my illness".

He gave an account of his 42 years as a Communist Party member, including eight years in exile in the Soviet Union.

He said he was arrested here on April 27, 1983, three months after the leading members of the party executive.

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TOTAL COST	£3,350.04

Prisoner of conscience



Uruguay

Truman's home town remembers

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The inhabitants of Independence, Missouri, commemorate today the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of the city's most famous son - Harry S. Truman, the insignificant small-town politician who went on to become one of the strongest presidents in American history.

For the most part the celebrations will be local and low-key. Just as Truman would have liked it. They began on Sunday, with a parade through the town centre and will continue in fits and starts until early next week. Highlights include a baseball game, a wreath-laying ceremony and the baking of a birthday cake large enough for 5,000 people.

There will also be guided tours of 219 North Delaware, Truman's home, which doubled as the summer White House during the seven and a half years he was president. A special set of postage stamps has been issued and enterprising businessmen are marketing Truman T-shirts.

Truman was sworn in as the thirty-third president of the United States on April 12, 1945, after the death in office of Franklin Roosevelt.

Leading article, page 15

White journalist charged over Swapo documents

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

A white Namibian journalist, Miss Gwen Lister, appeared in a regional court near Johannesburg yesterday, charged with possession of banned literature, which she brought back with her after attending a United Nations conference on Namibia (South West Africa) in Paris last May.

Miss Lister, in addition to her main job as the political reporter of the *Windhoek Observer*, is also a correspondent for the BBC in Namibia. The documents were confiscated by customs officials at Jan Smuts airport, Johannesburg, where she was detained for a time.

Five of the documents have given rise to charges under the Publications and Customs Act. Two of them are separate editions of the constitution of Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization), which has been waging a guerrilla war

Police face Solidarity death trial

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

A Warsaw prosecutor yesterday charged six men, including two police officers, with involvement in the death of a young student who became a martyr for supporters of the banned Solidarity trade union.

The student, Grzegorz Przemyski, was detained by police in May 12 last year in the Old Town district of Warsaw after celebrating the end of his examinations.

There was a struggle and Przemyski, the son of the poet and prominent Solidarity supporter Barbara Sadowska, was taken from a nearby militia station by ambulance. Friends of the family say that, although he was clearly in pain doctors did not give him treatment. He died two days later and his funeral was attended by 50,000 well-wishers, many of them wearing Solidarity badges.

None of the charges filed yesterday alleges murder. Two ambulance men are charged under Article 158, paragraph 3, which provides for a minimum of one year in jail for those found guilty of "causing death after a fight".

The two policemen face a maximum of three years' jail for "participating in a struggle which exposed a person to possible loss of life".

Two doctors face sentences of between six months and five years for serious neglect. All charges are therefore a variation of manslaughter.

The Polish authorities, having drawn up an indictment against the six suspects, suddenly withdrew the charge-sheet in the light of - unspecified - new evidence.

Yesterday's announcement was probably designed to forestall any large-scale protests on the anniversary of Przemyski's death.

against South Africa's occupation of Namibia.

● Critics accused: South African newspapers said yesterday that British critics of the visit by Mr P. W. Botha, the Prime Minister, to Britain are hypocritical and ill-informed about social changes in South Africa.

Mr Botha is to visit Britain and West Germany in about three weeks, during a trip that could include Portugal and possibly France.

Beeld, an Afrikaans daily that supports Mr Botha's plans for limited racial reform, said in a leading article: "The British Government's position over sports contacts with and weapons for South Africa, and the unbelievable two-faced stance over condemning terrorism and at the same time protecting the African National Congress, is one of the things that is most strongly faulted by South Africans..."

Leading article, page 15

al refugees

Duarte wins El Salvador election without fraud challenge from rival

From John Carlin, San Salvador

Señor Napoleón Duarte has won El Salvador's presidential election, but by a much smaller margin over Major Roberto D'Aubuisson than had been expected. That is not official, but is beyond doubt.

Señor Duarte has claimed victory and his opponent has not contradicted him. Fears that Major D'Aubuisson would challenge the result with charges of fraud also failed to materialize.

The right-wing candidate claimed victory at the end of polling on Sunday evening but effectively sealed the outcome in a news conference yesterday morning when, abandoning his habitual belligerence, he admitted that Duarte was ahead on the initial returns.

"I'm not going to concede defeat until the Central Elections Council puts out the official results," Major D'Aubuisson said, but his tone indicated that he is resigned to second place.

Crucially, he then said: "There were some irregularities (in the voting) ... but I will not

use the word 'fraud'." His pledge to accept the result will smooth the path for El Salvador's latest attempt to install a serious democracy and take away the pretext for violence among those sectors of the extreme right whom it is still feared might seek bloody retribution.

At a victory rally at Christian Democratic headquarters in the early hours of yesterday morning, Señor Duarte announced that he had won 55 per cent of the vote to Major D'Aubuisson's 45 per cent.

"There is no doubt. We are absolutely sure we have won," he told screaming supporters. The estimate was based on the party's own count. In the first round in March, the Christian Democrat projections tallied perfectly with the official results.

Major D'Aubuisson maintained that he had won eight of El Salvador's 14 provinces. If that proves the case, it will mean that Señor Duarte's traditional superiority in the capital has been decisive.

His rival said he expected a large drain of capital from the country - another subtle concession of defeat - endorsing the predictions of how the private sector, bitterly antagonistic to Señor Duarte, would react.

● QUITO: The right-wing entrepreneur Señor León Febres Cordero, claiming a surprise victory over his Social Democratic opponent in Ecuador's presidential election, yesterday pledged to take this oil-rich country out of a severe economic slump (Reuter reports).

Señor Febres Cordero appeared on television as official results of Sunday's runoff gave him 52.2 per cent, with three-quarters of the votes counted.

The Social Democrat, Señor Rodrigo Borja, who was favourite in opinion polls, won 47.8 per cent and conceded he may have lost the race.

● PANAMA CITY: Both candidates in Panama's first presidential election in 16 years claimed they were ahead yesterday but counting continues (Reuter reports).

Russians resume one-way dialling

From Richard Owen, Moscow

The Russians have partly restored direct telephone dialling from West Europe to Moscow after a gap of nearly two years, but not from the Soviet Union to the West. A spokesman for the Central Moscow Telephone Exchange said yesterday that a handful of Moscow subscribers were able to dial directly to the West but there was no prospect of this being extended.

Direct dialling was introduced on international lines from and to the Soviet Union shortly before the Moscow Olympic Games in 1980, when the Russians were under pressure to establish modern communications links with the Western world.

The move was never announced officially, however, and direct dial facilities from Moscow were withdrawn suddenly in July, 1982. Soviet officials said this was due to "technical repairs" which would last two years, and the current partial restoration of automatic telephone links seems to be related to this timetable. Dialling from the West to Russia lapsed in September, 1982.

Telephone callers in London, Paris and Vienna found last week that they could dial Moscow automatically again, though the Soviet authorities have still to confirm the facility officially. The situation has not changed for Moscow subscribers, on the other hand.

The continuing inconvenience for British businessmen in Moscow will be one of the topics raised by Mr Paul Channon, the Minister for Trade, when he arrives in Moscow on May 20 for a five day visit.

Western embassies have one or two lines for direct dialling, but not businessmen or journalists.

In an exception which adds confusion to an already tangled picture, West German businessmen in Moscow have been able to dial their companies in West Germany automatically for the past month.

"Either the Russians have got their wires crossed, or the confusion is deliberate," commented one West European diplomat. When direct dialling was abolished two years ago, EEC countries protested to the Kremlin that the move violated the Helsinki accords of 1975.

The most common explanation for the Soviet action was that the "Russians found it difficult to monitor contacts with the West when modern technology was used, and that the Kremlin realized to its dismay that the system enabled Soviet dissidents to speak to the West (and to Soviet émigrés) with relative ease."

Bonn asks US to send Moscow signal

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, opened two-day talks here yesterday with Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, on East-West relations, arms control issues, Nato and US-European Community problems.

Herr Genscher, who was to meet President Reagan later, is consulting about his Moscow visit on May 21 and 22 for talks with his Soviet counterpart, Mr Andrei Gromyko, a West German official here said.

The West German minister wants Nato to send a new signal to Moscow indicating continued readiness to hold constructive talks on improving relations. Such a signal could be formally endorsed by the Nato foreign ministers spring meeting here at the end of this month.

President Reagan, who has just returned from his first visit to China, has repeatedly called on Moscow to return to the separate intermediate range nuclear forces (INF) and strategic arms reduction talks (Start) in Geneva. The Soviet Union walked out of the INF negotiations last November when Nato began deployment of Pershing 2 and cruise missiles in Western Europe.



Mother and son: Sophia Loren and Edoardo, aged 11, who co-stars in her latest film *Qualcosa di bianco* (Something blond) now being shot in Sorrento, Italy.

Why India suddenly became the centre of drug traffic

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Quite suddenly, India has become the drug smuggling centre of the world. The Indian connexion now supplies high-grade heroin to drug dealers in London, in Europe - via Frankfurt - and in the United States - in ever-increasing quantities.

"Very few flights now leave Delhi for London or Frankfurt without some narcotics on board," Mr John King, the US Drug Enforcement Administration attaché in Delhi, said. "India has become a heroin smuggler's dream."

According to Mr King and other officials engaged in the nearly hopeless task of stopping this traffic, the ideal conditions for drug smuggling in India spring from the comparative cheapness of high-grade heroin; the lack of customs checking on departure; the lenience of sentences - the maximum penalty for heroin smuggling is three years' imprisonment - and the ease with which bail is granted.

In addition to the Indian gateways of Delhi and Bombay, the drug smugglers also use Katmandu and Colombo as part of their regular itinerary.

The south Indian routes have come into prominence because of a new toughness in Thailand and Hongkong in the East and the successes of a Pakistani

crackdown and the Iran-Iraq war in the West. The traditional smuggling routes have been disrupted and the trade squeezed into the centre.

The Indian connexion begins in Calcutta, where many perfectly legitimate chemical companies manufacture the compounds known as precursor chemicals, used for manufacture of heroin from opium. The chemicals move over the border from Manipur and Mizoram into Burma and from there into the hands of the insurgent armies in Shan province, which run processing plants in the south, near the Thai border.

Until recently, processed heroin was smuggled into Thailand and reached the West via Bangkok. The Thai Army has joined police in stamping out this trade and smugglers have been turning to other routes.

They reason that if material can be smuggled in from Calcutta, it can perfectly well be smuggled the other way, and it is now estimated that 45 to 90 lb a week of the best injectible heroin has been coming into the country by this route for the past five months.

New routes into Bombay are opening up from the opium fields and heroin processing plants in southern Afghanistan and around the Khyber Pass in

the North-West Frontier province of Pakistan, the traditional route through Iran and Iraq having been closed by hostilities. The smugglers have been sending their product into India via Lahore and Amritsar.

This has also become too hazardous since the increase of tension in Punjab.

New routes have accordingly been opened into Rajasthan, particularly through Jaisalmer, and through the mysterious misty swamplands of the Rann of Kutch, during the last two months.

The normal Pakistani outlet through Karachi still operates, but has been cut down by more insistent action by the Pakistani authorities, with the cooperation of US authorities.

"Any sailor, tourist, hitch-hiker, or businessman who offers to buy your heroin in Pakistan now is likely to be an undercover agent for the US drug enforcement people," a smuggler was reported as sorrowfully complaining.

From Delhi or Bombay the drugs headed for the British market go via Heathrow to Southall, London, where British Drug Squad detectives have recently reported a huge increase in the amount of heroin for sale.

Prince found dead in Seine

From Diana Geddes, Paris

The body of Prince Edouard-Xavier de Lobkowicz, who was related to the Bourbon-Parma pretenders to the Spanish throne, has been found washed up on the banks of the Seine outside Paris with shotgun wounds in the throat and chest. The Prince, aged 23, had been missing since April 4.

The Prince's family initially described his death as "accidental", but police are treating it as a murder. The motive remains unknown, although there is talk of the family's connexion with charitable organizations in Lebanon, and of Bourbon-Parma involvement in international arms deals.

Prince Edouard-Xavier was the eldest son of Prince Edouard de Lobkowicz, a descendant of the Czech aristocratic family and wealthy head of New York stockbrokers Stralem and Co.

The young prince kept well out of the public eye, rarely being seen at the grand soirees of Parisian high society. He was last seen leaving the family flat in Avenue Marceau in the fashionable eighth *arrondissement* of Paris, simply saying that he had a "rendezvous".

His car was found about two weeks later parked at the Gare de Lyon. His body, weighed down with a breeze-block, was found at the end of April at the confluence of the Seine and Marne at Ivry. It was formally identified last Saturday.

Prince Edouard-Xavier was descended on his mother's side from Louis XIV, Louis' grandson, the Duke of Anjou, became King of Spain as Philip V. One of his sons, founded the Bourbon-Parma family, whose senior branch are pretenders to the Spanish throne.

Shopkeepers of Calais furious

Paris - The shopkeepers and restaurateurs of Calais are up in arms about France's decision to ban the entry of British tourists without passports (Diana Geddes writes).

The Government had taken a sledgehammer to crack a nut, M Henri Ravisse, head of the Calais Chamber of Commerce, said yesterday.

The decision was out of all proportion to the risk of illegal immigration and would have "serious consequences" for the whole of the Pas de Calais coast, M Ravisse said.

Policeman dies in football riot

Madrid. - An off-duty policeman was killed when hit on the head by a stone as he tried to break up a fight among spectators at a minor league football match in Córdoba at the weekend.

On the same day - Saturday - the King's Cup final in Madrid ended with 11 players being carried off on stretchers and more than 60 spectators being treated in hospital.

Faction fight

Durban. (Reuter) - Fifteen Africans were hacked and shot to death in tribal faction fighting during the weekend in the Umtumbulo district, about 20 miles south of Durban.

35 electrocuted

Delhi (AP) - Thirty-five passengers were electrocuted when an overcrowded intercity bus carrying old bicycles on its roof came in contact with roadside electricity wires, the Uttar Pradesh state police said.

Card control

Peking (AP) - China is to introduce identity cards for all over 16 to have tighter control over the population and make administrative procedures easier, the *People's Daily* said.

Cold dip

The British Arctic explorer, David Memmman-Adams, aged 27, has survived a potentially fatal fall through the ice near the magnetic North Pole.

Defiant Hart faces four key primaries

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

The three Democratic presidential hopefuls today face four crucial state primaries, which many political experts - but none of the candidates themselves - predict could effectively seal the nomination for Mr Walter Mondale.

The primaries are being held in Ohio, Indiana, Maryland and North Carolina and between them they will send a total of 368 delegates to the national convention in San Francisco in July.

Opinion polls show the former Vice-President leading Senator Gary Hart and the Rev Jesse Jackson in all four states, though in Ohio, which accounts for one-third of today's delegate total, and Indiana the gap between him and Mr Hart was very narrow.

Although a victory in all four states would leave Mr Mondale, whose delegate count now amounts to 1,234 after his victory in Texas on Saturday, still several hundred delegates short of the 1,967 he needs to secure the nomination, it would almost certainly give his campaign enough momentum to capture California, the biggest prize of all, on June 5.

However, Mr Hart made it clear yesterday that despite his setbacks in Texas and Louisiana, where delegate count was to be in the race right through to the national convention, Mr Jackson also emphasized that he had no intention of withdrawing, and the scene appears to be set for a bitter struggle in San Francisco.

Aware of the damage which continued squabbling among the candidates could do to the Democrats' election prospects in November, Democratic Party leaders are trying to forge a unity agreement between the three contestants.

However, Mr Hart and Mr Jackson have expressed reservations about such moves, which they fear are designed to



Kiss in the crowd: Senator Hart receiving a kiss from a Cleveland supporter.

help Mr Mondale secure the nomination in advance of the convention.

The need for the party to end its infighting and present a united front against President Reagan was underlined yesterday by a new poll published by the *Los Angeles Times*. The poll showed the President would easily defeat either Mr Mondale or Mr Hart if the election were held now.

The unity moves are being spearheaded by Mr Charles Manatt, the party chairman who has said he would support the appointment of Mr Robert Strauss, the veteran politician, to head a group to resolve disputes between the three candidates.

However, Mr Hart's staff say they are opposed to Mr Strauss's appointment, as he is a Mondale supporter and his nomination is seen as an attempt to boost the former Vice-President's nomination prospects.

Both Mr Hart and Mr Jackson are insisting, as the price for their participation in the talks, that the unity group should examine the process whereby delegates are selected to the convention.

China pledges support and arms for PLO

Peking (Reuter) - Mr Yassir Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, yesterday secured a Chinese commitment to supply further weapons to the PLO as well as continued political backing.

The new China News Agency quoted Mr Zhao Ziyang, the Prime Minister, as telling Mr Arafat that China would provide "the cause of Palestinian liberation with political, material and moral assistance within its capability". Middle East diplomats took the term

"material assistance" to mean military and medical aid.

Mr Zhao gave the assurance before Mr Arafat left for North Korea after a three-day visit.

The North Korean Central News Agency, monitored in Tokyo, later reported that Mr Arafat had arrived in Pyongyang and was met at the airport by Mr Kang Sun San, the Prime Minister.

China, which does not have diplomatic relations with Israel, is one of the PLO's most long-term backers.

The rising value of girl's best friend

From Ian Murray, Brussels

Paris fashions are changing. The Kremlin was well satisfied with the Soviet harvest last year. There is optimism in Hongkong about what happens when the lease runs out. Social problems are growing in Singapore.

These little gems of information are just some of the many facets of world events reflected in the Kempen, the diamond centre of Antwerp, world capital of the trade.

The latest report of the trade's ruling body, the Diamond Ring Council, draws attention to them as being among the reasons why turnover in a girl's best friend went up by 14 per cent last year.

A main reason seems to be that the revival of the American economy is getting down to the classes that can afford to buy diamonds worth less than \$2,000 (£1,300), for the market in the United States has been rising steeply in this category.

For almost opposite reasons, it has been soaring in Israel. But the report concludes, this is because increased political tension and hyperinflation have increased uncertainty. Traders are moving particularly into uncut stones as a preventive measure.

In France, the problem - for the trade at least - is the Government's tax and financial measures, which have had the effect of soaking up cash usually spent on diamonds. As a result, fashionable Paris society avoids wearing fine and expensive jewelry.

This is not so in Britain, where the rough diamond trade has dropped by 45 per cent, which, the High Council concludes, must be due to the fact that De Beers is concentrating on quality goods.

In Hongkong, too, there had been a sharp drop in trade, but at the turn of the year things began to improve. The fear of big bankruptcies and an exodus to Singapore obviously began to fade and the trade began to pick up.

Singapore, however, failed to take off as a market, in part because migration from Hongkong dried up.

Singapore is also suffering from mounting social tension, which means there is less need for diamonds. Somewhat cryptically, the report says: "As a result of social tensions, it has endeavoured to curtail corruption somewhat."

One of Antwerp's main suppliers of polished stones is now India, which has overtaken the Soviet Union. The reason is that, while India has been concentrating on producing high-quality gems, the Russians, having enjoyed a good harvest, are not in need of so much hard foreign currency.

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Executive Travel Magazine October 1983

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The point is, Vodafone will free people from something that's been tying them down ever since it was invented over 100 years ago: the telephone. Isn't life strange?

RACAL

Operatic swings and roundabouts



Hilary Finch

John Percival

Michael Church

**Powerful suggestions of dream and the dreamer:
Jackowski's haunting *Downfalling***

Natural forms of plant and bone and boulder are even more evidently at the root of Nicholas Pope's series of *Unknown Landscapes* on show at Wed-

Noel Goodwin

Albert Finney
Eileen Atkins Max Wall
Graham Crowden Alun Armstrong
Toughen Troughton
Wellington Winton

**SERJEANT
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by John Arden

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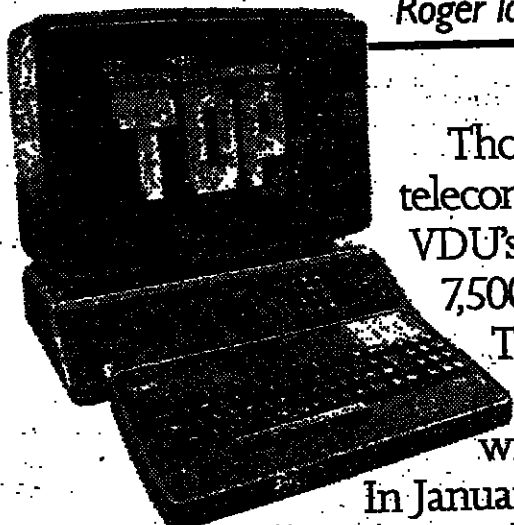
British Telecom set up its National Networks division with one clear purpose:

To provide business in Britain - large and small - with *total capability in communications*. All the resources to move information of any kind in any form - voice, data, image or text - from one place to another, quickly, efficiently and with maximum economy.

Can National Networks meet this demanding objective? Here - in brief - are three case histories.

"They're helping us keep holiday prices down"

Roger Tomlin, Development Director, Thomson Travel.

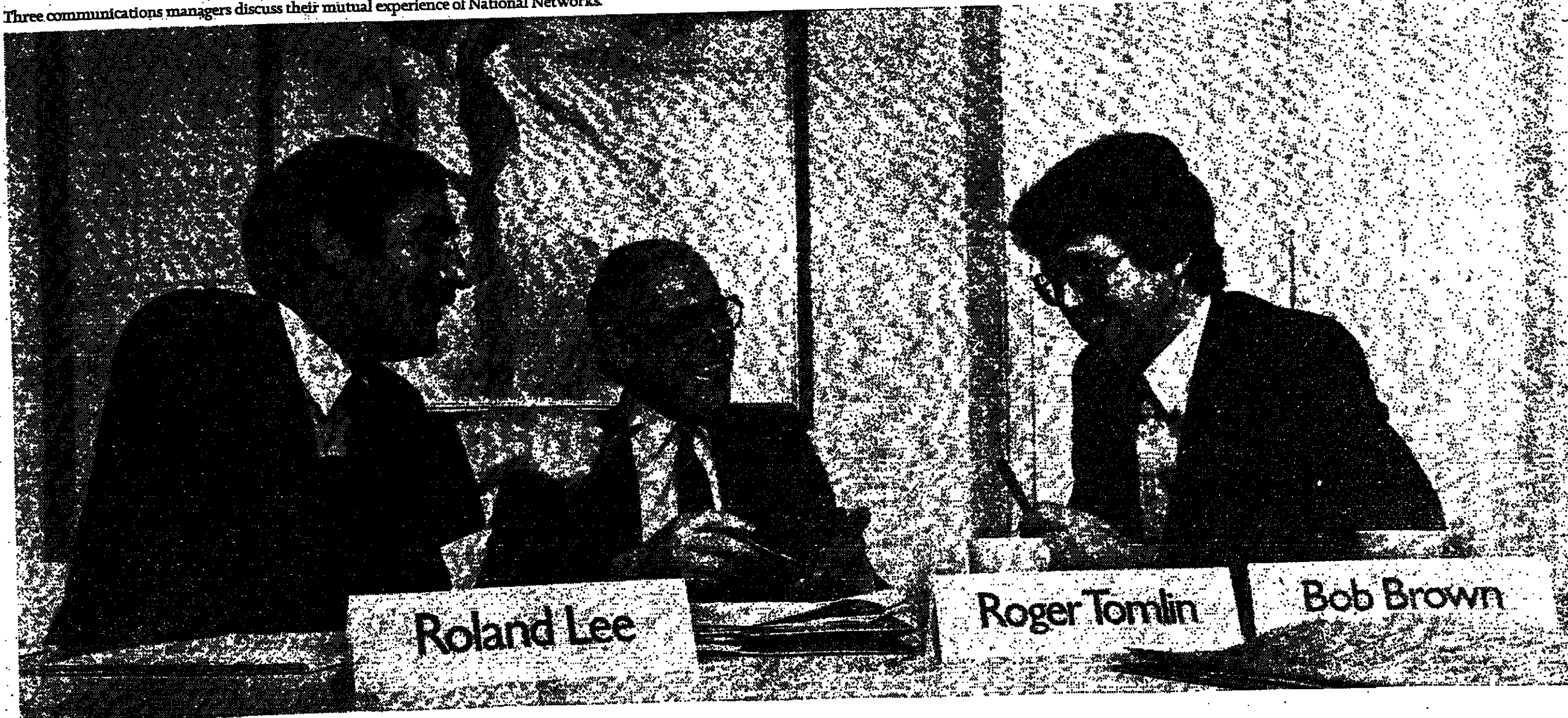


Information technology is a key resource in Thomson Travel. Their sophisticated nationwide telecommunication system links over 1250 internal VDU's, and - via National Networks - more than 7,500 TV terminals in travel agents.

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In January '84 bookings were up 25%: a volume of business that could not have been processed without T.O.P. Last year T.O.P. had a record availability of 99.4%. It is helping Thomson to give better service to agents and clients and thus to increase market share.

Three communications managers discuss their mutual experience of National Networks



National Networks have contributed greatly to Thomson's ability to respond positively to rapidly changing market pressures and provide efficient line back-up and maintenance.

"It was impossible to fault them in the support they gave us"

Bob Brown, Telecommunications Manager, Gallaher Ltd.

Gallaher needed to develop an existing voice communications system linking their three major locations and 14 dependent sites. A new "future-proof" system was decided upon, capable eventually of integrating both voice and data communications.

Gallaher demanded total capability - equipment, installation, service and support from a single source. The obvious choice, National Networks - who agreed to provide project control and a contact point in each local area involved. The contract was signed on June 30th 1983, and the new system up and running before the end of January 1984.

Lines available between major locations have increased by 50%. Gallaher estimate annual savings on STD calls could approach £50,000.

What does Gallaher think of National Networks' performance? The quotation above sums it all up.

"Return on investment around 25% per annum"

Roland Lee, Communications Manager, Blue Circle Industries.

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NEW YORK FASHION by Suzy Menkes

The New World has taken images from the old for its creative sportswear. New York fashion week and current designer clothes in London underline the message



New found confidence, fresh conviction and flashes of day-glo brilliance lit up the New York fashion week. The colours, the graphic shapes and the sexual charge of the Sixties make the avant garde, while established designers give a masculine twist to their New England sportswear.

Stephen Sprouse was the shock of the week in an East Village club, a psychedelic flash away from the old Warhol factory. Sprouse gave a strong show filled with images of the Sixties - doe eyes, fringed hair, mini dresses and rocker jackets. Andy Warhol himself was in the exuberant audience who

screamed at the spare black cashmere suits, the dazzling day-glo colours, the space-age silver leather all shown to the naked beat of hard rock.

A jumble of graffiti letters was printed on the clothes and drawn in make-up across face and flesh. Under that camouflage, 30-year-old Sprouse (who trained with the classic American designer Halston) is a fine tailor, making strong, square jackets, bringing back the single breast and the short coat.

Elsewhere, a genuine American-style has been created from country tweeds, classic shirtings, overcoats and accessories redolent of an England that is now for export only.

Ralph Lauren makes the most impeccable fashion statement about women's wear from gentlemen's classics. Showing against a brown study of leather-bound books and oak panelling in a New York club library, he produced warm tattersall tweed jackets, herringbone trousers and windowpane check overcoats, and a velvet smoking jacket, complete with crested pocket.

But Ralph Lauren - like the barmen in the fast-paced Manhattan cafe - knows how to mix a fashionable cocktail. He takes traditional pin-striped suiting and makes it into an over-sized jump suit or a wide-lapelled mobster suit. The all-American camp shirt with its workaday flap pockets comes up for evening in thick white silk. And his sleek new evening outfit is the gentleman's city coat, with velvet or fur collar.

You have to be a great designer to deal in simplicity and Calvin Klein makes some great coats - big, masculine shapes in herringbone tweed, shown with equally mannish pleated trousers and in the sombre colours of a frozen landscape: furrow brown, hunting green, berry red.

Klein's new jacket is the cardigan blazer, uncompromisingly collarless, good-looking in donegal tweed with a dark cravat silk paisley skirt. The shirt makes the dress of the season, simple in black velvet at night or as a plaid silk camp shirt.

Perry Ellis worked hard at his Twenties sportswear theme, and was rewarded with a standing ovation for his abstract-patterned knits inspired by the paintings of Sonia Delaunay. Perry's menswear included collarless drapes, the abstract patterned shirt, single-buttoned jackets and the short coat. His women's clothes were in men's cloth, with some pleat-front pants but also very long wrap skirts and gym-slip dresses. Elongated tunics with long skirts looked stunning in knit with abstract patterns at hip and hem.

There is another side to New York fashion: the ritzy, glitzy style that shimmers like the new Trump Tower and would look equally out of place in London's low-rise social landscape.

Bill Blass makes Fifth Avenue clothes and he makes them beautifully - a soft camel coat worn with fondant pink and almond green or mink neck and cuffs on renaissance green ribbed skirt. Bill Blass, the originator of the up-market fashion glamour that Americans call "couture", is master of the flirty cocktail dress, ruched at the front, swathed at the hips or sequinned at the bodice. His most stunning evening outfit was a sugared almond pink angora tunic buttoned low at the back over a pink skirt.

Ladies who lunch will wear Oscar de la Renta's bold wool

suits in hot colour combinations like egg yolk yellow with turquoise or lagoon blue and shocking pink, above slim black skirts. The velvet collar - a general trend - was the merest touch of man tailoring in a collection that used Spanish embroidery in cut velvet as decoration and came out with all the lamé fit to print.

American fashion does not have the creative cutting edge of international fashion. But many English women find the American sportswear style more appealing than hard-edged high fashion - even at the dollar-high export prices. Accordingly the New York designers have come out of the closet with confidence in their own image.

"I am what I am", as the Broadway hit musical puts it. Except that, this being Manhattan, those words are sung by a fella in a frock in the gayest show in town.

COMING OUT IN MANHATTAN



FASHFLASH NY

Young London has arrived in New York with a big flourish. A fashion show given for Britain's avant garde designers, and a new department set up in Macy's, pay fluorescent lip service to the source of current creativity.

But when I started to search the mammoth Macy's store, the story was rather different. Sue Caines' Flesh and Steel T-shirts and Rachel Auburn's bold shapes are on sale - but in numbers that are laughable by New York store standards.

I would like to think that buying British is a sell-out success. But the truth is rather that window dressing in the US is an art - and a craft way of getting you inside to the regular merchandise.

"The Village was for Sixties people, SoHo for the Seventies and the Upper West Side is for the Eighties" is how a New Yorker defined for me the geography of fashionable New York. Downtown you still find old clothes (now white linen blouses and fringed paisley scarves), day-glo sportswear and craft jewelry. Charivari on Columbus Avenue has the Eighties preoccupation with No Nuke T-shirts (by British designer Katharine Hamnett) and a sea of jet holocaust Japanese grey cotton.

Masculine pleat-front pants may be a uniform on the New York runways, but in the restaurants trousers are not the current chic. Executive women dress for working breakfasts in suits with skirts and lunch in tie-neck dresses.

Fashion designers are at home in Bloomingdale's. Leader of the pack is Ralph Lauren, whose homestead collection of flannels is shown against resinous pine filaments treated to smell like your own log cabin. Snug quilts complete with storage pockets, country chintz, dark paisley sheetings and stripey shipboard towels make stunning country room sets. Laura Ashley keeps to her pretty image with towels threaded with ribbons or handkerchiefs with flowers. Issey Miyake's sheets are cool, angular and would look just fine on your straw mat.

With a Francis Bacon exhibition the happening of the week and modern art canvases on sale in store, it is not surprising that art is in fashion and fashion draws on art. Perry Ellis's Sonia Delaunay abstract patternings are part of a chain of cooperation between art and fashion that started with Dali and Schiaparelli. The most stunning section of the Yves Saint Laurent retrospective at the Metropolitan Museum features his Mondrian and pop-art inspired clothes from the Sixties. The Metropolitan's shop now wholesales its reproduction of works of art (including jewelry and accessories) to the stores.

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THE TIMES DIARY

People's bureau

The first formal meeting between Westminster and Buenos Aires since the Falklands conflict is about to be held in New York, between an all-party delegation led by Tory MP Sir Anthony Kershaw, chairman of the Commons select committee on foreign affairs, and Argentina's ambassador to the United Nations, Carlos Muniz. It has clearly upset Mrs Thatcher. Yesterday a Foreign Office spokesman said the exchange had "nothing to do with the Government" and urged me to "read nothing whatever" into it.

Tory backbencher Peter Bottomley, who in March signed a motion pressing for the resumption of relations, takes a different view. "In a democracy, people don't wait for governments to resume formal talks," The Foreign Office, meanwhile, continues to communicate with Buenos Aires in more coded ways. Mrs Thatcher wants to speak she contacts the British ambassador in Switzerland via the FO; he tells the Swiss Foreign Ministry, which passes the message to the Swiss ambassador in Buenos Aires, who in turn...

Country strife

Unseemly feuds are not confined to Fleet Street's lower reaches. The genteel air at *Country Life* has turned distinctly ungentlemanly following a confrontation between journalists and management over their editor's conflict of roles. While continuing as editor, Michael Wright was recently appointed "publisher" by IPC of both *Country Life* and the *Antique Dealer and Collector's Guide*. His staff said he cannot be both editor and publisher. Wright has apparently agreed to do the decent thing and vacate his editorial chair of 14 years. I hardly needed to speak to him for confirmation. When I rang, his secretary asked if I was an applicant for his job.

The right stuff

A year's all-American transformation is being offered by the Walt Disney Organisation, which is recruiting young Britons for its World Showcase Fellowship Program in Florida. "Advanced" English-speaking applicants "must be willing to adhere to the Walt Disney World Appearance Standards": Males: hair cut over ears, no facial hair, no bracelets, necklaces, earrings or hairpieces. Females: natural hairstyles, no coloring, bleaching, streaking, no wigs or hairpieces, no shadow or eyeliner, no bracelets or necklaces. "Finally, 'no personal limitations'." Could Goofy's days be numbered?

● A friend just back from the Fisherman's Cove Hotel in the Seychelles tells me he reported the theft of his bathing trunks to the manager. To be told: "We've had a lot of trouble with the local dog." My friend helpfully asked if he should report back if he spots a dog wearing his trunks.

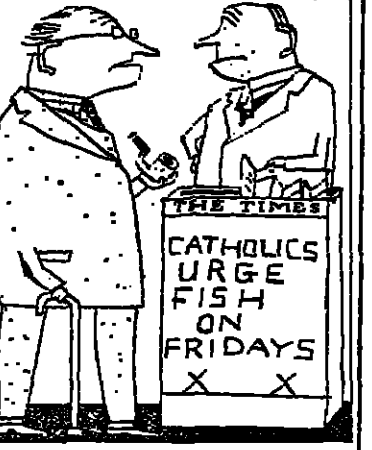
Saints' days

The Marquess of Tavistock tells me the three Hell's Angels who are squatting in his former gamekeeper's cottage, at Woburn, are pretty tame stuff. The angels, whom he is trying to evict in court next week, have behaved like saints since they moved in over Easter. They have even dumped their Harley Davidsons for an old car. "I have wilder chimpanzees," he says.

Authors' writes

Publishers are said to be having hysterics over Faber and Faber's promise to give authors the right to renegotiate their contracts every 10 years. "In this company," said the selfless Faber, "there was not one dissenting voice." Hardly surprising: no fewer than seven Faber board members and editors are themselves authors - among them Craig Raine, the poet, Donald Mitchell, the music historian, Robert McCrum, thriller writer, and Pete Townshend of The Who, head of the rock list, who is now working on a novel.

BARRY FANTONI



"Do you suppose it's a move to get us used to paying VAT on take-aways?"

Thurnham clean

Tory MP Peter Thurnham swears he will tell nothing but the truth when he is quizzed about his expenses by the Commons select committee on employment next week. He has agreed to be wired up to a polygraph as part of the committee's examination of the use of lie detectors to vet GCHQ staff. He tells me he expects to face "the sort of questions designed to make you twitch", including "Have you ever fiddled your expenses?" and "Have you ever told a lie?" Curiously, no one else on the committee has volunteered.

Oxford University has nearly 100 separate libraries. Between them they take four or five subscriptions to a single periodical. *Nuclear Physics* (cost £1,500 a year each). What would an efficiency scrutiniser from Lord Rayner's school have to say?

Obviously, rationalize. The university could continue to function perfectly well as a top-flight academic institution with fewer book collections and, say, only two subscriptions to *Nuclear Physics*.

But that judgment means confronting Oxford University Library Board, the Curators of the Bodleian Library and any number of irate fellows of colleges - in other words a power structure of antiquity and sinuous strength. Some would say the structure is part of Oxford's beauty. Many, in the tradition that gives Britain's universities a strikingly high international reputation, would question whether management consultants are entitled to ask such questions, for what begins as an issue of resource allocation quickly becomes a vexed issue of research and the lineaments of knowledge.

To multiply the example and the point of principle it raises by the sum of British universities (not all as labyrinthine as Oxford, admittedly) and you get some idea of the minefield facing Sir Alex Jarratt's committee on the efficiency of universities, which meets for the first time this afternoon.

Jarratt was chosen by the vice-chancellors with government approval as an open-minded corporation man who is patently not the Prime Minister's feared expert on Whitehall efficiency, Lord Rayner.

On the face of it he will set his committee of academics and industrialists a much less fraught agenda. The Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals has done a deal with Sir Keith Joseph in which they support his plan for sample efficiency studies à la Rayner in half

David Walker describes the difficulties facing the Jarratt committee on academic efficiency, which meets for the first time today

Bringing the universities to financial book

A dozen universities, but matters educational and academic are excluded in order to preserve the independence of academic judgment.

The official plan is for Hay, Coopers Lybrand, and Peat Marwick with the other consultants to be brought in to study purchasing, cleaning and computer application - no more nor less than the first generation of Rayner scrutinies in Whitehall and indeed no more than most universities have been doing for some time through shared O and M (organization and management units) or in-house efficiency studies such as those done by Imperial College's department of management science.

This is anodyne stuff which will neither save much money nor - this is the view of many university administrators - ask the interesting question. Administration in universities accounts for less than 7 per cent of current spending; the bulk of outlays relate one way or another to academic work.

One academic registrar said: "Once again the CVP has given the impression of having something to

University Grants Committee as a member of his group. This will presumably mean no discussion about what many universities consider the hopeless quality of UGC decision taking and the bureaucracy it demands.

"Try and sell the freehold of our own land to a company located on our science park," said a Midlands university registrar. "It's a morass of UGC and Treasury restrictions."

How much will Jarratt's scrutinies be allowed to say about the role of vice-chancellors themselves - of them managers in the conventional sense? Just as Whitehall's permanent secretaries have resisted Rayner-inspired attempts to give them a job description (and so begin assessing performance) so vice-chancellors are likely to fend off any efforts to pin down what their role is or might become.

Jarratt is a start. "At the minimum, as an outside, impartial look at the way we run our business this scrutiny will be worthwhile," says Imperial's pro-rector.

But is the exercise as now conceived also a lost opportunity to give the universities - many still flustering like butterflies wounded in the 1981 round of cuts - managerial backbone to enable them to fight their corner? Academic management is complex; administering precious creativity and providing for scholarship is still an ill-understood art.

In his recent book on the university crisis, Peter Scott worried that a "meta-language of bureaucratic command" might come to fill the vacuum created by the disappearance of a common intellectual language in the modern specialist universities.

Perhaps. But might a rigorous approach to efficiency and effectiveness in academic institutions not also provide a rallying point for the universities in reasserting their important place in the changing economy and society of Britain?

David Felton on the unrest over the public-private wage gap



Teachers out. It will be the same at many schools tomorrow

make up at the very least half of the lost ground.

But storm signals are not confined to the teachers, civil servants and nurses. Industrial action is threatened on the railways and in the Post Office, where 4 per cent offers have been rejected, and British Telecom's refusal to drop the principle of a differential offer, which would give less to some grades which are said to be overpaid, has led to difficult negotiations.

It is difficult to predict how the Government will react to the growing union restiveness, although immediate attention will focus on the teachers and civil servants who are more or less side by side at the head of the pay queue. Many schools are expected to be closed tomorrow by the teachers' one-day strike; it could presage a long and damaging campaign in which children might be prevented from sitting examinations.

It is now generally accepted that if the present rejected 4.5 per cent offer to the teachers had been tabled two weeks earlier, it probably would have been accepted in England and Wales, as it has been by Scottish teachers. The poor handling of the negotiations by local authority employers immediately before the teaching unions' annual conferences has created a situation where both sides are entrenched and the unions are flexing their not often-used industrial muscle.

The teachers point to pay comparisons throw up by a joint pay survey conducted with the employers to show how their pay has slipped since 1974. The overall average teaching salary of £9,240 is set against £10,993 for accountants and £11,644 for electrical engineers and £15,875 (including allowances) for police inspectors. Police pay is a touchy subject for all public service workers who have seen the police and other "privileged" groups such as the armed forces and firemen maintain high increases, while their pay has been held down.

Police pay increased by 8.4 per cent last autumn while firemen had a 7.8 per cent rise thanks to their index-linked pay formula. Indeed, police and fire inspectors now rank number three in the white-collar pay league, with average weekly earnings of £284. By comparison, the average Civil Service salary is £7,071 although the range rises from around £3,000 for a clerical assistant to £24,000 for assistant secretaries.

The Civil Service unions, who are expecting the Treasury to make some improvement this week in the Government's 3 per cent pay offer, are pressing for 7 per cent increases, which represent the upper quarter of the range of pay rises in comparable private sector jobs.

In response, the Government has laid great stress in negotiations on

the need to look at developments in other areas of public pay, notably the local authority manual workers' 4.5 per cent deal.

Finally there are the one million National Health Service workers who have been placed by the Government firmly at the end of the present pay queue. The Prime Minister's announcement that the nurses and midwives pay review body will not report for a month indicates that ministers would like the Civil Service and teaching pay negotiations out of the way before talking to the nurses.

The review body is thought to have recommended increases of between 6 and 9 per cent for the 450,000 nurses and midwives, and although there have been reports that Mrs Thatcher will try to reduce the increase to the 3 per cent limit, such action would create a political storm and could provoke even the most non-militant nurses.

The problem that the Government faces with the nurses, as with the Civil Service, is how to accommodate increases of more than 3 per cent in cash limits. If the nurses were given 6 per cent, that would double the £82m allowed in cash limits and wipe out this year's real growth in NHS spending. In the Civil Service a 4 per cent increase can be squeezed into a 3 per cent limit by leaving vacancies unfilled for a period, but anything above that would cause difficulties.

With these groups, who together make up 2 million of the workforce, the growing problems have all resulted from some form of pay comparability under a government which, burdened with the Clegg and Civil Service awards when it came to office in 1979, set its face firmly against comparability for the future. That small U-turn may lead to Mrs Thatcher's hold on the pay purse strings being loosened, however slight.

diminutive stars. The manager's name was Sr Sordo Lopez, which, as every discerning soul knows, is the name of a cloying sweet white wine.

The paper's football *novus* may have been sadly faded, but its nose for wine retained a brisk twitch, and all subsequent reports on Palmerston FC were consigned to the pending index. One has to assume that after a few weeks the correspondent got withdrawal symptoms, for there came a spate of phone calls in funny voices asking what had become of the team. The common characteristic of all these voices was that it sounded like the sports reporter in a rival paper, an individual with a long history of trying to embarrass the opposition.

In the end Palmerston FC was consigned to an ignominious grave. The paper which had trumpeted their fictitious feats finally sent them on a tour of the Isle of Wight, during which they played two matches, scoring just one goal and conceding 53. There was a disgraceful scene at a Ventnor nightclub, as a result of which the Fairlie twins were arrested and Sr Sordo Lopez deported. And not a single supporter rang in to set the record straight.

Alan Franks

Roger Scruton

A call to alms we must resist

"Love thy neighbour," said Christ; and "who is my neighbour?" came the prompt reply. Because there is no simple answer, Christ responded with a famous parable. The Samaritan extends his help to a stranger, but he acts under the impulse of compassion, and without a rational plan. Maybe he should have looked around first, lest there were some more needy victim? Maybe, refusing their help, the priest and the Levite conserved it for someone more deserving. Maybe it would have been better to leave the victim to die, so as to draw attention to the plight of the oppressed peasants who had been driven to kill him? Maybe the assailants were terrorists, engaged in a "war of liberation", and their victim a pampered member of the ruling class?

Political calculation, when it intrudes into charitable motive, also destroys it. The clear obligations of the heart become clouded by the monstrous ambitions of the brain. The help we can understand and offer seems unreal; while the help which lies beyond our understanding, and for the sake of which we must take up arms in a never-ending struggle, seems uniquely worthy of our energies.

English law excludes political activity from its definition of charity. But as the example shows, every act of charity may be given a political interpretation. Hence every charitable foundation may be "politicized" by those who see no distinction between the relief of suffering and the "struggle" for a better world.

A most instructive example is provided by War on Want, a charity ostensibly devoted to the relief of poverty. Many who give money for this admirable purpose may be surprised at the organization's own interpretation of its calling.

At War on Want's annual general meeting in 1983, the main speaker was a member of the central committee of Swapo and the theme throughout was that of "struggle by peasants and workers' organizations to overcome inequality and oppression; and so on. It is not difficult, now, to interpret those expressions, or to understand what might be involved in War on Want's support for "groups organizing for change" and groups "disseminating alternative news". Nor is it hard to understand the real meaning of the general secretary's closing remarks, in which he emphasized the need to develop links with both the peace and labour movements, which he saw as War on Want's "natural allies".

As a matter of fact War on Want is extremely suspicious of the charitable motive, which, by relieving present suffering, perpetuates the status quo. It prefers the broader view and in particular the "struggle"

for radical social and political change. It often says as much. In 1981, it launched a campaign against unemployment, that was justified by the then general secretary in the following terms: "We realize that the unemployed do not want the old-fashioned kind of charity handouts, paternalism and charities doing the job governments should do."

Old-fashioned paternalists who, like the Good Samaritan, step in and do the government's business, only impede the overthrow of political transformations to which the energies of War on Want are now largely directed.

War on Want gives active support to the "people of Namibia" in their struggle against "South African oppression", and to the "refugees" who over the last few years have gathered in neighbouring Angola, very often with automatic rifles on their shoulders. And those seeking to help this cause are invited by War on Want to contact organizations that work for the violent overthrow of the present political order in Southern Africa.

The organization was particularly active in Grenada, before the US invasion, and provided £250,000 for "development" projects. A statement issued by the vice-chairman, regarding the overthrow of this revolutionary paradise implied that the "development" projects promoted by War on Want benefits enormously from the benign supervision provided by a single-party Marxist state. In a recent Newsletter, War on Want has declared that it does not provide emergency relief, "but", it asks rhetorically, "should we refuse to give urgent support when organizations such as Swapo or the Revolutionary Democratic Front in El Salvador ask us to do so?"

Someone who believes that the people of El Salvador will be happier under the rule of the "Revolutionary Democratic Front" - as happy, say, as the people of Cuba - may wish to support this cause. But is it charity? The answer to that question is provided by another: what if the belief is wrong? What if the people of El Salvador would be less happy after the Revolutionary Democratic Front has seized power?

The worth of the Samaritan's action was unquestionable. He sought not to change the world, but to relieve the suffering of one individual within it. He did not calculate the profit and the loss, nor did he need to; for what he did was good in itself, and required no further justification. Can the same be said of the actions of War on Want? And, if not, should it enjoy the privileges accorded to a charity?

The author is editor of the Salisbury Review.

Mark Goyder

Petty cash - and pettiness

Strange and paradoxical are the ways of our parliamentary democracy. One moment elected representatives - or that portion of them still awake at the ungodly hour when these big decisions are taken - vote through a Consolidated Fund Bill approving billions of pounds' worth of public expenditure. The next day they show an eye for detail by interrogating ministers on questions as detailed as their departments' annual consumption of paperclips.

A minister who knows that he is likely to face this kind of detailed question goes back to his permanent secretary and says: "Do what you like with the balance, but for God's sake remove the skins from my path", and the permanent secretary sets up a formidable machinery of screening and auditing to ensure that his political master is free from risk.

Departments, quangos and voluntary bodies receiving public money are interrogated: their every receipt is minutely examined. Risky ventures likely to cause the minister embarrassment are identified, and might be then cut off. So it is that upon a minister, he is accountable; his actions are conditioned by the fear of detailed scrutiny.

And what a price we pay for this petty form of accountability. The result is public spending without risk - and since experiment involves risk, that means also public spending without experiment.

One of the most imaginative of the many voluntary organizations of the Manpower Services Commission with spending money on youth training is Community Service Volunteers. This organization has pioneered the Springboard programmes which offer training opportunities associated with community service. The trainees might be placed in a day nursery, a centre for the elderly, or a school for the mentally handicapped. Or they might be assigned to one of the teams carrying out a costly commercial exercise under the eye of a trained project leader.

In one scheme in Kent the painting and decorating team of five trainees was entrusted with a job in the bell tower of Rochester Cathedral. "It's fundamental work," said the project leader, "stripping things down and starting again. We have had to do it in careful stages, and that has meant the trainees have learnt more about working in a team. We began with a budget, worked out what we needed, and brought it together..."

Mr Tom King, the Employment Secretary, may not have known about that side of the Springboard Kent project. Unfortunately, two years ago other trainees produced a tasteless cartoon, insulting to the

Royal Family, and he heard all about that. The whole of Springboard Kent is now closed, with the loss of 200 places.

The demise of Springboard Kent is one illustration of the dangers of ministerial risk avoidance. There seems to be no recognition of the insurance principle that if you set out to do anything worthwhile you must expect accidents. I wonder how much experiences such as the Kent "scandal" have influenced Tom King in his more recent decision to cut back by some 20,000 the number of "Mode B1" places in the Youth Training Scheme - that is, in schemes such as Springboard where the trainee works for a community project and not a commercial employer.

Speaking as an employer of a YTS trainee, I would say that employer-based experience is fine for youngsters with some initiative, but it lights few fires for those less interested and self-reliant. The employer looks for someone who will learn by getting on with the job, and a typical supervisor does not have the time to talk to the trainee and find out that he has fallen out with his parents or that his one enthusiasm in life is motorbikes.

While employer-based schemes draw out those who are most likely to make it without help, the community-based B1 schemes have an enviable record of enthusing the school drop-out who sees no point in sorting biscuits on a conveyor belt, but does come to life as an assistant in a nursery school, or learning his or her way round the stock control of an Oxfam shop, where an individual contribution clearly counts.

If the minister were really interested in helping with the transition from school to work, there would be no better schemes to promote than those which help the people least likely to make the transition on their own. As the all-party Penal Affairs Group has pointed out, these are the most likely to be tempted into crime if they do not make this transition.

"The transition from school to work." What does that mean to the 16-year-old, bored with the classroom, unqualified and without a spark of passion for the plastics factory down the road? There's more to it than clocking in on time and learning to "keep your nose clean".

We don't spend billions on youth training merely to help employers screen out the top 10 per cent. To justify our investment, youth training has to bring youngsters of all abilities to life at work, and bring work to life for all levels of ability. That is the kind of effort for which we should hold the Mr King accountable.

Eleven good men and untrue

even captain of the side. The poor sports editor has to wade through acres of longhand scrawl, in which 10-0 home defeats are somehow portrayed as a combination of bad luck and worse reffing. "Once again, the wind had a really poor match, favouring the opposition for the first 45 minutes, and then changing direction on the stroke of half-time." There are also strange coincidences between the by-line of the report and the apportioning of heroic status: "Despite his two broken legs and partial blindness, goalie Tommy Rourke was once again the saviour of Rambleton Rovers," writes Tommy Rourke. Well, not quite that flagrant, but nearly.

In this landscape of Wizard cliché and wild hyperbole, the Palmerston reports were a beacon of literacy. Here were measured judgments, indented paragraphs, and sub-clauses which did not hijack the sentence. Here too was modesty of such a pitch that "the lads" often got

stick from the correspondent even in the wake of a comfortable victory. Moreover - and it was here that a rat should have been smelt from the start - the reports did not carry a by-line. Still, there could be no question but that they were kosher, and in they went.

Palmerston's correspondent had obviously not read his *Machete*, but left prey to "vaulting ambition" which o'erleaps itself and falls on the other. So intoxicated was he by the public credibility of his dispatches that he soon pushed the device too far. Not content with filing results which looked more like rugby scores, he stepped up the midfield activities of the twins, C. Fairlie and D. Fairlie, both just 4 ft 11 in tall, to a point at which one of them scored from the halfway line without the ball leaving the turf.

Bucked by the appearance of this report in the paper, he wrote that a top Spanish manager had now flown post-haste to Britain to sign the

John G. 1350



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THE STAMP OF TRUMAN

More than sentimentality lies behind the celebrations on both sides of the Atlantic to commemorate the birth of Harry S. Truman one hundred years ago today. As President of the United States from 1945 to 1953 he embodied and helped shape the great certainties of that time: that the overwhelming power of the United States should be committed to the containment of Soviet power, the reconstruction and defence of Europe, and the promotion of freedom around the world.

With these certainties now under question, the centenary provides an occasion to look back and ask whether they were merely the transient products of the Second World War, or whether they marked a fundamental change in the course of American history which will survive the present period of doubt and disarray.

It is easy to forget just how revolutionary was the change in American foreign policy after the Second World War. The traditions of isolationism were abandoned, the warnings against "entangling alliances" ignored. America stepped forward to assume the responsibilities of world leadership. The lessons of the inter-war years were still fresh. As Truman himself said in 1948: "After the First World War the United States had its first great opportunity to lead the world to peace. I have always believed that it was the will of God at that time that we should enter into and lead the League of Nations. How much misery and suffering the world would have been spared if we had followed Woodrow Wilson. We are not making the same mistake this time that we made in 1920. God willing, we will not ever make that mistake again."

Out of this determination came economic and military aid to Greece and Turkey, the Marshall Plan for the reconstruction of Europe, the Berlin airlift of 1948, the Point Four programme for aid to developing countries, and the formation of Nato in 1949. It was a time of vision, idealism and bi-partisan support for foreign policy.

In retrospect this all looks more inevitable than it seemed

at the time. When the war ended the United States began to demobilize and bring its forces home. Most people assumed that they would leave Europe altogether as they had left it after the First World War. What caused the brakes to be slammed on and the policy to be reversed was the consolidation of Soviet power in Eastern Europe, the Berlin blockade, and the fear that Soviet influence would spread throughout shattered Europe, aided by communist parties expecting to enjoy the rewards of their resistance to Nazism and their support for the Soviet Union. The policies of containment and the commitment to Europe did not spring unaided from the far-sightedness of American leaders. They were a response to a threat, and they endured because the threat endured until the policies came to be accepted as part of the natural order of things.

When General Eisenhower assumed the presidency in 1953 bi-partisanship continued. Foreign policy was dominated by the east coast establishment, many members of which had personally taken part in the defeat of Nazism and the rebuilding of Europe. Their roots were in Europe, their friends, their memories and their shared successes. Their optimism that these successes could be extended to other parts of the world reached its peak under President Kennedy. The United States was invincible, her values unquestioned, her resources almost limitless and her mission clear. She could afford to defend freedom everywhere.

This confidence was shattered by the Vietnam war, a military and moral defeat which broke the domestic consensus, alienated a whole generation at home and abroad, destroyed confidence in leaders and institutions and lastingly weakened the power of the eastern establishment.

It was not only Vietnam and Watergate that caused this change. The power and the values of the United States would in any case have been challenged by a changing world, the rising military power of the Soviet Union, the proliferation of new states, and economic

growth in Europe and the Far East. Even without Vietnam, the United States would now be dealing with a complex, recalcitrant world with many centres of power. There would be less confidence in the great certainties engendered by the common fight against German and Japanese nationalism. Its own centre of gravity would anyway have been shifting westwards, its demographic structure changing and its trade tilting towards the modern industries of countries such as Japan, Korea, and Taiwan.

Does this mean that the commitment to Europe will inevitably weaken, that the Truman era was just a detour, not a new departure? Nobody can be sure, but it seems unlikely. The United States is more dependent on foreign trade and foreign resources than it has ever been before. It cannot withdraw from the world. Nor could it withdraw from Europe without putting at risk not only its very substantial economic interests there but also the global balance of power. The loss of Europe would be of enormous strategic significance. Nor can the Europeans afford to lose the protection of American nuclear power for the foreseeable future. Thus, only a massive and mysterious wave of irrationality on both sides of the Atlantic could wholly disrupt the web of shared interests and values that still criss-crosses the Atlantic.

Nevertheless, the relationship needs nurture if it is not to weaken. The Americans took a risk when they decided to support the European Community. They took the risk of creating a political and economic rival. They did so in the belief that in the long run a strong Europe would become a valuable ally. They have been disappointed not because Europe has become too great a challenge but because it has remained weaker than it should be, squabbling over minor issues, unable to generate a sense of common purpose, and blaming too many of its ills on the United States. If the work of President Truman is unravelling it will be at least as much the fault of Europe as the fault of his heirs in Washington.

IN THE ROLE OF OUTCAST

Nothing is more congenial to politicians than to identify and adopt positions which appear to put them on the side of the angels, especially when the positions adopted are invested with implications which seem to put them outside rational discussion. For the politicians of the left, the undoubted immorality of apartheid establishes that the government of South Africa is irredeemably and absolutely evil, and has therefore to be regarded as not fit to be spoken to in any situation that arises.

Mrs Thatcher thinks differently, and she has invited Mr P. W. Botha, the South African Prime Minister to talk to her when he comes to Europe next month. She has decided that if the governments of West Germany, Switzerland and Portugal can talk to him, she can — and, of course, she is right.

Predictably, rage has erupted on the left. Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader (who was happy to go to Moscow and boast afterwards of how much time the authorities there granted him) has described the visit as "an insult to Britain's black community". Likewise, Mr Neil Kinnock, always good for a cliché, has denounced the visit as meaning that "a British Prime Minister is bartering for South Africa," while Mr Peter Hain

threateningly describes the visit as "an aggressive act which would provoke an aggressive response," reminding us of his past propensity to advance the cause of freedom in South Africa by physically stopping people here from doing what they are legally entitled to do on the cricket field.

The blanket condemnation of South Africa, and the refusal to give its present government any credit for recent changes of attitude are in marked contrast to the compromising attitudes towards other states with unpleasant or tyrannical regimes, whether in Africa or Europe. There have, for instance, been more people in prison without trial in Tanzania than in South Africa, and the racial pass laws of South Africa are matched by pass laws of a different sort to control dissidence in the Soviet Union. Yet how far a system designed to penalize a man for the colour of his skin is worse than one designed to punish him for his opinions and beliefs could evoke philosophical disputation without end.

What is severely practical and relevant now is that Angola and Mozambique (whose President Machel visited Britain last year) have recently undertaken new peace initiatives in negotiation with the South African government, and both countries have

approved the talks about to start (under the auspices of President Kaunda of Zambia) between Swapo, the nationalist guerrilla organization in Namibia, and the present political parties in that country.

With so much movement towards peace in South Africa it makes no sense to deny Mr Botha the opportunity to learn direct from the British head of government this country's opinions. To talk to him is no more to underwrite apartheid than talking to President Chernenko would underwrite Soviet Communism if he were coming to learn for himself about Western European attitudes.

There have been signs of a developing political conscience in South Africa which does not owe everything, though it doubtless owes much, to the external pressures against that country's system. Only those who will be satisfied by nothing short of the total overthrow of the system as distinct from its evolution have rational grounds for condemning Mr Botha's visit. Mrs Thatcher's critics have a duty to say what advances they regard as necessary in South Africa to permit the pragmatic conversations she will hold with Mr Botha, or to remove from South Africa the burden of being the world's only pariah.

THE FLOODGATES ARE OPENED

One of the bees in the bonnet of that gallant and quixotic controversialist, Sir Alan Herbert — one which buzzed in these columns and elsewhere for thirty years or more — was the idea of a great barrage across the Thames to protect London from the occasional devastating tidal floods it has suffered since the middle ages. The glittering new structure, resembling a row of drowned Sydney Opera Houses, which the Queen today officially inaugurates would certainly have been castigated by Sir Alan as a grand missed opportunity.

It is an emergency barrier, designed to block the river only against quite exceptional tidal surges. But Sir Alan had always advocated stopping the tide completely and turning the river at the heart of London into a tranquil stream which would never again flow like a torrent round the piers of its bridges and never bare its unsavoury mudflats at low tide. This vision was deeply perverse in a waterman who might have been expected to appreciate the splendour of those intermittent currents which can carry a boat,

half becalmed by office blocks and monuments of Empire, ten miles from Greenwich to Chelsea in a couple of hours. Happier counsels have prevailed.

The history of the barrier is full of such ironies. Its spectacular overruns on price and delivery date, as majestic in their way as the statistics of its novel and unparalleled technology, could stand as an emblem of the industrial history of the seventies and eighties, with small groups of workers taking full advantage of the urgency of the project, gambling bonus claims against the remote possibility of a disaster in which thousands might have died. Now the barrier seems destined to be the Greater London Council's greatest monument to posterity, as Waterloo Bridge is the great monument of the old LCC. Both projects were pushed through with their share of friction between national and metropolitan government.

The GLC deserves its credit for having urged the importance of giving London proper protection — though since Parliament's

consent was won in 1972, the present regime at County Hall can claim only reflected glory for that momentous strategic initiative. Today's occasion is quite significant enough to justify the Queen's involvement and it would be as inappropriate to regret it as it was for Mr Ken Livingstone to declare that her presence would be an implicit royal comment on the Government's plans to extinguish the GLC.

It is geological forces working over a scale of time dwarfing both Westminster and County Hall which have made the barrier necessary. London, like Venice, is sinking infinitely gradually into the sea which brought it its wealth. Now London has been given protection against anything but an astronomically remote threat for at least a century and probably longer. The history of the barrier, for all its instances of maladroitness and small-mindedness, will not seem so deplorable if it is compared with the even longer story of similar attempts to save Venice, which remains unprotected to this day.

Home programme for cable films

From Mr Piers Haggard and others

Sir, Next Tuesday, May 8, the Cable and Broadcasting Bill comes to the House of Commons. The occasion is of great importance, not only for those who work in the industry as we do, but for the public at large. The Government has so far been unwilling to give the new Cable Authority any brief to preserve cultural standards or encourage home production. Unless it does, British viewers and British programme makers together face a depressing future.

It seems strange to found an uncertain new industry upon the assassination of a healthy old one. Would it not be more logical for Britain to nurture and strengthen a new home market the better to export as the Japanese invariably do to such effect?

The 14 per cent quota observed by the BBC and ITV for nearly 30 years has had exactly that result. British television is not only admired all over the world: it is a successful exporter. Italian broad-casting, on the other hand, totally unviewed, is not only of poor quality: it is a massive importer and a substantial drain on their balance of payments.

Our Government has so far set its face against quota, requiring only a "proper proportion" of EEC material. Franchise operators indicate intentions to purchase home product "if suitable". Such vagueness conceals a threat to all of us.

We entreat the House of Commons, in the national interest, to amend this Bill, giving the new authority the teeth to insist on decent programme standards and firmly requiring cable providers and operators to limit non-EEC imports. We suggest a statutory review after five years to evaluate the performance of each operator.

If such matters cannot be specified in the Bill itself, at least they should go into an enforceable code of practice. Failure to legislate now will hand over a new home market to American domination on a plate. Recently published schedules indicate this is already happening.

British directors and producers welcome, as always, new media and new challenges. The British entertainment industry stands ready to programme for cable at a realistic cost. All we require is a corresponding realism from the Government, which has consistently asserted its pride in British talent.

Yours, etc,
PIERS HAGGARD, Chairman,
The Directors Guild of Great Britain,
TERRY WILLIAMS, President,
The Association of Directors and Producers,
CLIVE PARSONS, Chairman,
The Association of Independent Producers,
17 Great Pulteney Street, W1,
May 4.

South African footnote

From Mr Peter Elstob

Sir, May I add a footnote to the article (Spectrum, April 26) about Breyten Breytenbach? In January, 1979, I was sent by International PEN to South Africa to try and persuade the authorities to release him. Thanks to the efforts of the Cape Town PEN centre, support from both the English and Afrikaans press and, particularly, to a personal request from Sir David Scott, our ambassador at that time, the Minister of Prisons agreed to see me. He called in the head of state security and he required that our conversation be tape recorded. I made no comment about the innocence or guilt of Breytenbach nor about the harshness of the sentence, having learned from similar prisoners that it does not help the prisoner to do so.

I asked if he had not been punished enough and that mercy be now shown to him. I pointed out they could choose how the history books of the future might read; either that one of South Africa's greatest poets had been broken by a long prison sentence and virtually silenced or that a wise and humane government had released him early and he had then produced some of his finest work. South Africa could, I added, do with some favourable publicity just then.

The minister said that the tape would be transcribed and included among the Cabinet's papers at their next meeting. Later I was told that it had been decided that the time was not ready for his release.

I do not suggest that the unprecedented remission of two years of Breyten Breytenbach's sentence was due to International PEN's campaign, of which my visit was a small part, but I do think it helped and is, perhaps, worthy of putting on record.

Yours sincerely,
PETER ELSTOB,
Burley Lawn House,
Burley Lawn,
Hamphshire,
April 26.

Brazilian elections

From Dr Leslie Bethell

Sir, The Brazilian Ambassador (April 26) challenges the statement in a Times editorial (April 18) that "no Brazilian under the age of 40 has voted in a free election".

It is true that throughout the period of military rule since 1964 there have been elections by direct secret popular ballot every four years for Congress (whose powers, incidentally, were severely restricted) and for state assemblies. But, at least until 1982, these elections could hardly be described as "free".

Opposition parties, candidates and election campaigns (especially access to radio and television) were all carefully controlled and frequent changes in the electoral rules of the game guaranteed majorities in Congress for the party of the regime

A broader base for sixth-form studies

From the Chairman of the Headmasters' Conference

Sir, I was pleased to read in your leading article (May 2) that Oxford University has told the University Grants Committee that the need for a broader sixth-form curriculum was "urgent". My sadness is that Oxford's own new proposals for entry via an examination taken in the fourth term of the sixth form will in fact militate against that very broadening and even threaten the acceptability of the admirable new AS level (formerly I level) examinations announced this week.

Existing general studies courses may also be jeopardised as heads of department attempt to prepare candidates for the Oxford examination, possibly in a single subject, right in the middle of their (already too specialised) A-level course. Surely the sixth term is the answer.

However, Oxford's clear commitment to a broader curriculum base will bring pleasure to Lord Flowers, Chairman of the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals, whose admirable letter (March 8) pledged his committee to the fullest support for the new AS levels which would offer "a realistic prospect of breaking free of the restricted range of subjects which has stereotyped the education of our able pupils for too long".

I echo Lord Flowers's desire that those responsible for university admissions will pay due attention to this important development, a point which was also forcefully made by Dr Ingram, Chairman of the Standing Conference on University Entrance (April 5).

It is immensely heartening to read, in Sir Keith Joseph's new paper on AS levels (report, May 2), of the hope that "the arrangements for admission to higher education could be adapted so as to give preference (having regard to the grades achieved) to students who have studied a wider range of subjects".

Here at least, and at last, is a true gleam of light!
Yours faithfully,
DAVID EMMS,
Dulwich College, SE21,
May 3.

Roots of damage

From Mr J. P. Grunewald

Sir, I do not think the apprehension voiced by your correspondent, Mr Lingard (April 27), about the effect of the judgment in *Russell v. Barnett*, is at all justified. The facts before the court were that an ancient oak tree had undoubtedly caused a house to subside by abstracting moisture from the soil. It would be quite wrong to discount the amount of damage a tree can do.

The tree stood on the highway outside the house, and the court had to decide whether the tree was the responsibility of the householder or of the highway authority. Had the ruling been that a householder is responsible for the activities of highway trees in front of his house, doubtless all over the country worried individuals would fall such without any regard to their amenity value. But in the event the court decided the highway authority was responsible.

VAT on building

From Mr H. H. Mainprize

Sir, Your leader, "A tax on reconstruction" (April 25), is based on a false premise. As the solicitor in the solicitor's office at Customs and Excise in 1971 who instructed Parliamentary Counsel to draft the initial legislation, I do not accept that what you refer to as the "anomaly" was always indefensible in principle.

VAT is a consumer tax and repairs and maintenance fall squarely within the ambit of personal consumption. Alteration which, in the vast majority of cases, leads to improvements, and new building work are not consumer expenditure. The direct tax laws recognise this by making a distinction between revenue expenditure and capital expenditure.

Given that the policy, in 1971-72, was to encourage the building of new houses in the domestic sector as well as the modernization of the existing stock, the legislation produced no anomaly. The tax was confined to repair and renovations and improvements were to be encouraged by the zero-rate relief.

Problems in practice arose because of the legalistic interpretations by their illiteracy). Since 1964 all five presidents have been generals imposed by the military high command.

A 40-year-old Brazilian has never voted in a presidential election. Moreover, despite the present widespread, almost universal, popular (including middle class) dissatisfaction with the 20-year-old regime and despite the movement, so far remarkably peaceful and moderate in view of the economic and social crisis, for *diretas já* (direct presidential elections this year) President Figueredo's successor is unlikely to be freely chosen by Brazil's 60 million voters.

Yours faithfully,
LESLIE BETHELL,
96 Andrews House,
Barbican, EC2,
April 27.

Under his letter the ambassador understandably chose not to remind your readers that the last direct popular presidential election in Brazil was held as long ago as 1960 (and even then over 40 per cent of adult Brazilians were disfranchised

interest in the result, that predict more students in 2000 than in 1981, but not even the most optimistic of them anticipate a steady rise from now till then.

The importance of this is not the forecast — they are usually wrong anyway — but, as your leader rightly says, the need for change in the pattern of undergraduate degree courses.

The next decade offers the best prospect for very many years of a reform of our over-specialized and over-academic upper secondary and higher education. As the number of 18-year-olds falls it will be in the universities' own interests to adapt their course structures and admissions criteria to meet the needs of a segment of the population much wider than the small number of school-leavers who aim to become academics, civil servants and members of the liberal professions.

However, this is unlikely to happen if we talk ourselves into the mistaken belief that demand for the existing pattern of courses is going to remain buoyant, come what may.

It is not only Arthur Scargill who will serve his members best by facing reality and modifying worst attitudes so as to be able to tap new markets.
Yours sincerely,
GARETH L. WILLIAMS, Director,
Institute for Research and Development in Post-Compulsory Education,
Cartmel College,
Lancaster,
May 2.

Teachers' pay claim

From Mr C. E. H. Wade

Sir, Sir Keith Joseph mops his brow, looking melancholy, and states that teachers are irresponsible and unprofessional. He may be right; teachers are not paid professionally and are treated irresponsibly — he cannot expect anything else.

The current salary range of an "average" teacher on scale 2 is £5,949 to £9,132, for a demanding and stressful job, graduate entry and no tax or financial perks. I would like to hear Sir Keith say, hand on heart and without reference to market forces or the politically determined global sum available, whether he considers this to be a reasonable rate for the job.

If he does, the country will have the standard of teachers the present government deserves; if he does not, he, as Secretary of State for Education, should be at the forefront of getting something done about it.

Yours faithfully,
C. E. H. WADE, Headmaster,
Bramston School,
12 The Colliers,
Hedgebridge Basin,
Maldon, Essex,
May 2.

As a lawyer involved in the case, I heard the evidence that was given and it was apparent that the council had for years operated a programme of inspection and judicious pruning of ancient trees in their streets, partly with a view to any damage the trees could cause.

It can reasonably be said that the decision in *Russell v. Barnett* correctly places the onus on local authorities to continue to look after ancient trees with the manpower and expertise at their disposal.

The root activity of a tree can be controlled by pruning the crown of a tree, and there is no need to fear that local authorities will panic at the decision and fell those trees which can safely be preserved, many of which contribute immeasurably to our urban environment.

Yours faithfully,
J. P. GRUNEWALD,
97 Kings Avenue, SW4,
April 28.

That the customs placed on the statute. These interpretations have, in the main, been held to be incorrect, by the decisions in the *Viva Gas* and *Sharmam* cases, both by the House of Lords and the Divisional Court.

The customs did not like being shown to be wrong and so persuaded the Chancellor, with the bait of £500m extra revenue to amend the law to produce the anomaly to which you refer.

It would not be sufficient to remove the zero-rating relief on new works of construction. New buildings would still have a 15 per cent advantage because when they were sold, or leased for more than 21 years, by the person who constructed them, the supply would be zero-rated.

The proper course of action would be to repeal group 8 of Schedule 5 of the VAT Act 1983 in toto. This would place new buildings in exactly the same VAT position as reconstructed ones.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH MAINPRIZE,
Vatax House,
11 West Halkin Street, SW1,
April 26.

Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY BASHFORD,
25 Meadow Road,
Alcester,
Warwickshire,
April 30.

Long may BR continue to use her! Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY BASHFORD,
25 Meadow Road,
Alcester,
Warwickshire,
April 30.

From Monsignor Bruce Kent
Sir, Coming from a racing family, the Duke of Norfolk ought to realize that those who are, in his brisk terms, "round the bend" (report, May 5) may actually have a clearer view of the course, its hazards and opportunities, than those still painfully making their way in heavy going up the first straight.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE KENT, General Secretary,
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament,
11 Goodwin Street, N4,
May 5.

Unfair tax rates on the margin

From Mrs Martin Wooller

Sir, During the Easter holidays I took the opportunity to visit a friend, now aged almost 84 years, who lives in Cambridge in a modest flat owned by the university. She told me that she had been so alarmed by steep and rapid increases in her rent (properly fixed by the rent officer) and rates that she had been obliged to apply for housing benefit in order to make ends meet.

Her gross income, made up of her state pension, a small pension from her former employers and a small amount of investment income, amounts to about £58 per week. She then astonished me by saying that her marginal rate of tax, as from November of this year, would rise to 70 per cent.

She meant by this that while every marginal £1 of her income would be liable to income tax at the standard rate of 30 per cent, there would also be deducted from her housing benefit a further 40p by way of "clawback". Thus out of every extra £1 she might receive by improving the return on her small investments she would be able to keep only 30p.

In his Budget proposals the Chancellor announced the abolition of the investment-income surcharge of 15 per cent, thereby reducing the top rate of income tax on unearned income to 60 per cent. Earned income is similarly liable to a top rate of 60 per cent only. The richest taxpayers therefore now have the marginal rate of tax of 10 per cent, less than the marginal rate of tax (in its broadest sense) of a pensioner in my friend's circumstances whose income is less than £60 per week.

Is this a sign of the kind of compassionate society which is to greet us as we emerge from the recession?

Yours faithfully,
EILEEN WOOLLER,
8 Marlborough Close,
Marlborough Hill,
Old Wiclwyne, Hertfordshire,
April 30.

Sortie de Bayonne

From the Duke of Wellington

Sir, I read with interest the letter of Sir Patrick Reilly (April 14). I recall well the various events that took place in Brussels on the 50th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo and the feeling of real regret that the French could not bring themselves to take part. This feeling was shared by us all.

I am happy to say, however, that no such inhibitions marred the events of the week before last in south-west France to which I alluded in my letter of April 12. My wife and I were received with great hospitality and kindness and at the various commemorative services and at the receptions given by the mayors of Biarritz and Bayonne there was an atmosphere of great cordiality. It was made amply clear that both sides were proud of their dead and of the chivalrous manner in which the campaign of 1813-14 had been fought.

It is interesting to reflect on why this part of France should be such a stronghold of the Entente Cordiale. Firstly, its inhabitants recall, not without pride, that in the Middle Ages they owed allegiance to the sovereigns of England and through this association many links were established.

Secondly, there is no doubt that these links were strengthened by the magnanimous and impeccable behaviour of the Great Duke and his army during their period of occupation. In fact many members of it, seduced by the charm of that beautiful part of France, returned as tourists and started a trend which built up during the nineteenth century and continues to this day. I beg to remain, Sir your most obedient servant,
WELLINGTON,
Stratfield Saye House,
Reading,
Berkshire,
April 26.

Landscaping and BR

From Miss Rosemary Bashford

Sir, The letters published on this subject have covered a wide range of views. None, however, has commented upon the value of railway embankments as wildlife habitats.

There is a great deal to be seen from a carriage window and many stopping trains travel slowly enough for an observant onlooker to watch nature at work. Wild plants can grow unmolested along a railway embankment, providing a safe environment for many animal species.

I remember the thrill I had from seeing a little owl on a railway embankment fence post. Waiting to exploit the larder beneath it, the owl was obviously quite accustomed to the noise and rush of the passing trains.

It seems odd that people want to "landscape" an environment that is already being landscaped by the most accomplished expert available — Nature.

Long may BR continue to use her! Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY BASHFORD,
25 Meadow Road,
Alcester,
Warwickshire,
April 30.

Betting on the bomb

From Monsignor Bruce Kent

Sir, Coming from a racing family, the Duke of Norfolk ought to realize that those who are, in his brisk terms, "round the bend" (report, May 5) may actually have a clearer view of the course, its hazards and opportunities, than those still painfully making their way in heavy going up the first straight.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE KENT, General Secretary,
Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament,
11 Goodwin Street, N4,
May 5.

Every month 1,000 companies go bust. You can't always blame the economy.

According to a recent report in a financial newspaper, companies go to the wall for all manner of reasons.

In many cases the economy has little to do with it.

Those popular whipping boys, the Government and the unions, don't even get a mention. Nor should we automatically point the finger at the EEC or the microchip.

For the most part, the bald truth is that when companies get into trouble they have only themselves to blame.

Mismanagement of stocks. Lack of capital. Setting up in the wrong location. Lack of trust and communication between managements and their accountants. Too rapid and under-researched expansion. Old-fashioned production techniques. And so on.

The same blunders crop up time and again.

How do level-headed, hard-working businessmen get themselves into such a jam?

HOW MISTAKES ARE MADE

In our experience, it's not just that managements make the wrong decisions.

Increasingly they are making decisions too late.

Usually because they are short of information. Or the information is in the wrong form. Or it's in the wrong place.

What this calls for, we believe, is nothing less than a root and branch reorganisation of working procedures.

And a lot of companies agree with us.

Over 200 of them in Britain are already using Hewlett-Packard office systems to improve their productivity.

Be under no illusions. This goes much further than a computer for the accounts department and a word processor for your secretary.

It's a way of making available at a moment's notice every scrap of information you need to make decisions.

A BETTER WAY OF WORKING.

We'll provide you with the means to create, revise, store, print, retrieve and distribute letters, reports, mailing lists, graphs and charts without moving from a desk or lifting a telephone.

And this refers to material stored not just ten floors below but written five minutes ago in an office on the other side of the world.

Effectively, almost every task your staff perform can be speeded up.

WHERE DO YOU START?

First you have to decide what needs to be done.

And that depends on your type of business, the number of people you employ and how many computers you have already.

(Incidentally, Hewlett-Packard computers are compatible with other makes of computer, so we can usually incorporate those you are currently using into our system.)

Initially, we like to explain in general terms the service we provide.

We'll then invite you to our international headquarters in Berkshire to discuss specific applications and see all our products in action.

It's much more than a demonstration.

Our own business procedure is built around an Office Automation System, enabling us to test everything we make in a real working environment.

(Not the case with all our competitors. They don't always practise what they preach.)

Next we like to spend two or three days looking at the way you

work, studying your office layout and talking to your staff.

Up to this point it won't have cost you a penny.

If you wish to take things further, we'll carry out more studies and present our findings in the form of an analysis report.

In this report we commit ourselves to assessing both the short-term and long term benefits your company will derive from employing Hewlett-Packard.

With our reputation clearly on the line, you can bet we make sure we get it right.

WHAT FORTUNE SAID ABOUT HEWLETT-PACKARD.

In the United States we are known as one of the pioneers of computer systems.

In a recent poll, readers of Fortune Magazine placed us ahead of our rivals on a number of counts: the quality of our products, the service we provide, new ideas and our ability to attract and keep the most talented people.

We came to Britain twenty years ago, since when we've quietly established ourselves as a leader in Office Automation Systems.

We have training and support personnel in 25 service centres in Britain. They are on call twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Sooner or later, all companies will get around to investing in Office Automation.

The worry is that your competitors may have decided to do it sooner.

Either phone us on 01-935 6109 during office hours or telex our Office Automation Programme Manager, on 848805.

Or for your information pack, write to Enquiry Section TT1, Office Automation Systems, Hewlett-Packard Limited, Eskdale Road, Winnersh, Wokingham, Berkshire RG11 5DZ.



**HEWLETT
PACKARD**



ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, April 30. Dealings End, May 11. $\frac{1}{2}$ Contango Day, May 14. Settlement Day, May 21
 $\frac{1}{2}$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

FT - ACTUARIES INDICES	
INDUSTRIAL GROUP	532.86 (536.33)
500 SHARE INDEX	583.97 (587.34)
EST EARNINGS YIELD	9.92 (9.88)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.16% (4.14%)
P.E. RATIO (NET)	12.53 (12.68)
ALL SHARE INDEX	534.73 (534.26)
DIVIDEND YIELD	4.36% (4.34%)

11.6
 2.1
 28.1
 48.1
 12.2
 12.2
 1.1
 31.4
 38.9
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 11.6
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 26.3
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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Leaving the debt game while you're ahead

In as much privacy as its European participants can achieve, a seminar of central bankers in New York this week is discussing the next phase of the international debt crisis. Of course, such foresight is admirable. Indeed, the central banks' management – and the Bank of England's in particular – of the human and technical problems involved in the debt drama so far has been more than admirable. It is possible, just the same, that these skilful, managing central bankers are now being misled by their past success.

Recipe for 1984 is same again

To take stock: since 1982, when banks were forced to turn their attention from the hard currency shortages of East European governments to the huge debt mountains of Latin America, the scale of debt rescheduling has multiplied. Last year, about 30 developing countries were engaged in negotiations with their creditors, the result of which was, according to calculations by the International Monetary Fund, to reduce their debt service payments by about \$19,000m. They did not get away with an easy ride: in 1983, the developing world was forced to cut back its imports by \$34,000m, at considerable cost to its weakest members but default was averted, and central bankers breathed again.

With accumulated rescheduling expertise, the recipe for 1984 appears to be: the same again. Perhaps another \$19,000m will be smoothed off debt payments due this year, and pushed into the future. So the central bankers have turned their attention to that future, when another debt bulge threatens in the late 1980s. Meanwhile, the borrowers should find life a little easier: rising world demand should increase their export earnings, while the austerity measures of the past year are beginning to yield an improvement in their international reserves.

With more time to plan, the central bankers and their governments have been dreaming up fancier schemes. The American favourite appears to be a "cap" on interest rates paid by developing-country governments. The idea is rather like that made popular by Mrs Thatcher in the British general election of 1974, when she proposed a cap on mortgage rates. In both cases, the argument is that certain classes of borrowers deserve protection from movements in market rates, which are quite outside their control. Since much developing-country borrowing is at variable rates, the one percentage point by which American prime rate has risen this past month could cost them as much as \$3.5 billion a year.

But the idea makes as little sense in the international market-place as it did in the British context. American enthusiasm is understandable; the Administration is keen to defuse explosive international anger at the further rise in US interest rates. It is not, however, clear why other governments – through the international institutions – or the private banks should be asked to pay for the consequences of American economic policy by stumping up their share of interest-rate subsidies.

What is more, the effect of such a

scheme would be to channel yet more of the available finance into the hands of the big borrowers, where too much of it is going already. The process of "successful" rescheduling has been that a rising share of international bank lending has gone to half a dozen big borrowers. Truly voluntary lending to other Third-World countries has virtually dried up.

The sufferers from this contraction are not just those poor countries, but the world as a whole. The sudden contraction in American Third World struggle to rebuild reserves, has turned American banks into net borrowers from the rest of the world. This, in turn, means the Third World is involuntarily financing the American budget deficit, while – as Simon Coates argues in a special research paper today – the drying-up of American lending is helping to push up the dollar.

It is at this point in the argument that central bankers should stop worrying about the future and ask themselves whether present policies are working to the benefit of the Third World as a whole. With Mexico, and with Brazil, there is not much doubt that the massive concentration of resources was worth the cost, and that the adjustment programmes initiated by both countries were a fair – and even an excessive – price paid in terms of national suffering. But there is a rather different test case simmering in the shape of Argentina. The argument for generosity, or at least flexibility, by the creditors is the same as in every previous rescheduling: that if agreement is not reached, the ripple of default through the western banking system will be costlier than coming to terms.

Ripple of default in Latin America

But there are limits to that argument, as it is possible for some government or other to overstep them. A far more difficult question to settle in advance is the effect of default in one country on the government of another, attempting to hold its electorate to an unpopular adjustment course. For fear of a ripple of default through Latin America, the West's central bankers have rightly urged their commercial colleagues way down the path of negotiation. Contingency plans are necessary for the day that path proves too long.

Much planning for the future should take the unpopular form of resisting protectionism in the industrial world and encouraging direct investment in the developing world. Neither process needs seminars in New York to prove its necessity, only political will in the two halves of the world. Among the central bankers' schemes, the most sensible is the plan for insurance of bank lending put forward by Mr Henry Wallich of the Federal Reserve Board. It could be financed by the banks themselves; and it would help to restart the flow of commercial loans to countries which were too small or too poor to have borrowed the entry fee for today's expensive game of bluff.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

ORDINARY SHARES

Opening time for brewery investors

In just two months, the brewery sector has shown an outstandingly good performance with a rise of 21.1 per cent, considerably better than the 8.9 per cent improvement in the All Share Index. Having been placed very near the bottom of the league tables in the first two months of 1984, the sector is now very much up with the front runners. The causes include post-Budget relief, further signs of sales recovering and the added bonus of a "Brewers' Easter".

These influences favour sales but it would be wrong to overlook the proposed Corporation Tax changes announced in the Budget which will be of tremendous benefit, given that brewers invested heavily in outlets but suffered from harsh discrimination in terms of low capital allowances. For most brewers net profits will rise, as the tax changes progress. Some see rises of up to a third above the levels which would have been experienced on the existing basis.

The mere fact of having achieved a good performance in just two months should not detract from the fact that, even after this rise, the sector is showing a relative decline of 4.6 per cent over the last 12 months. Thus, in some senses, the visibly superb performance since the end of February should not be taken to imply that the "fun" is over, but perhaps rather more that the "fun" has just started.

The next "Brewery Results Season" is due to commence. Virtually every company in the industry is due to announce either interim or preliminary figures over the next eight weeks. In the main, these results should show very satisfactory profit rises, although there will be some disappointments.

More importantly, the omens are encouraging for rather better growth in the second half of the brewing year to the end of September, 1984. The prospect of good results has been fuelled

by a resurgence of interest following the takeover of Border by Marston on terms that many view as very generous to the shareholders, and more recently the acquisition of Cameron from Ellerman by Scottish & Newcastle.

This seems a sound move by Scottish, but Messrs D. R. and F. H. Barclay (the owners of Ellerman for just six months) have clearly proved that their purchase was not simply "an absolute snip" but more realistically a bargain of unparalleled magnitude.

Against a background of good news, some companies have been affected by strikes and disputes among their customers. In this context, mention should be made of those companies with a "coal mining" interest. Until last year such companies were, relatively speaking, basking in the pleasant backdrop of high levels of prosperity and the rising disposable incomes of their customers.

However, they are now suffering, initially following the miners' overtime ban which clearly syphoned off a lot of "beer money" and then more recently from the further difficulties in the coal mining industry.

In this category might fall both Hardys & Hanson and Mansfield. The shares of both companies have shown a relative decline in the past year of 47.6 per cent and 37.9 per cent respectively. Neither might resume any share price supremacy unless the prosperity status quo of coal mining areas is restored and debt levels of their existing customers repaid.

In a sector viewed as attractively priced, as many believe the brewery sector is, it often pays to look for the poor performers in the hope of belief

that their share prices have rather more catching up to do. This particular method of selection would, however, suggest a number of companies which are still quite highly rated and, for the present, does not seem to be particularly apt.

The running is still very much with the major brewers. Whitbread, with preliminary results due shortly, has recovered some of its earlier share price setback (in relative terms) but the rating might still reflect an element of concern (unjustified about past acquisitions as well as the recent seeming state of new purchases, changes

within the company and the apparent lack of much hard fact about the company's position and prospects.

Priced at 175p and valued at 13 times historic earnings, there would seem to be scope for further recovery and the ample asset support, with a net asset value probably in excess of 230p per share, is an additional prop.

At the other end of the spectrum, mention should be made of a relatively new entrant to the sector-Brewmaker, which entered the USM last November. The company was formed in 1973 as a wholesaler of beer and wine kits with soft drink concentrates added to the product range in 1979. In the last six years there has been a spectacular, nearly tenfold, rise in profits brought about by the markets supplied by the company growing rapidly and market share itself advancing.

Future volume growth is expected to exceed 20 per cent per annum. Although there is the ever-present risk of some form of taxation being introduced on home brewing and practical terms, be difficult if not impossible to implement.

Priced at 44p, Brewmaker

Colin Mitchell

have been affected by strikes and disputes among their customers. In this context, mention should be made of those companies with a "coal mining" interest. Until last year such companies were, relatively speaking, basking in the pleasant backdrop of high levels of prosperity and the rising disposable incomes of their customers.

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US dealers lift dollar to record in volatile trading

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The dollar surged ahead in European and New York foreign exchange markets yesterday reaching a record high against the pound and its best levels against the Deutsche mark for three months.

The familiar spectre of rising US interest rates propelled the dollar upwards while the threat of industrial action in the German engineering industry and the absence of significant intervention by the German central bank contributed to the mark's weakness.

Trade was thin and volatile with the important London markets closed for the May Day bank holiday. After rising strongly in the Far East, the dollar soon breached DM2.76 against the Deutsche mark in European trading before closing

in Frankfurt at DM2.7590 – 3.8 pence above its close in London at the end of last week.

However, United States markets soon took up the running, chasing the dollar up to DM2.7757 by early afternoon in New York and dealers were predicting that the US currency could soon be testing DM2.80.

Sterling was on the sidelines with London closed and was not under any great selling pressure. But the dollar's advance pushed it down as low as \$1.3860 in the US markets. This compares with an all-time low during London trading of \$1.3910 on January 9 this year.

Sterling held up reasonably well on its trade-weighted index during last week but its performance on the exchanges will be closely watched today

for any sign of weakness which could add to pressure for a rise in interest rates.

Concern was mounting towards the end of last week that the clearing banks will soon respond to upward moves in money market rates by increasing their base lending rates to 9 per cent from 8.5 per cent, or 8.75 per cent in the case of Barclays.

Today's April money supply figures are expected to be a crucial influence. Some analysts believe that if money supply growth emerges in line with the gloomier predictions of an increase in £M3 in April of more than 1 per cent, then a rise in bank base rates may be unavoidable.

The recent comments from Dr Henry Kaufman of Salomon

Brothers that US interest rates could move spectacularly higher later this year or next, were still helping to push the dollar higher yesterday and Eurodollar rates were also edging higher, widening the gap between European and dollar interest rates.

Further signs of the US administration's concern over the monetary policy of the Federal Reserve Board emerged at the weekend. Mr Donald Regan, US Treasury Secretary, said in a television interview that the Fed may have overreacted in March when it moved to restrict money growth to combat a resurgence in inflation. He said the Fed must supply enough money to keep the recovery going.

Opec quota likely to be held

Demand by some members that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries' overall production quota of 17.5 million barrels a day should be relaxed was headed off at the weekend at the monitoring committee's meeting in Vienna.

It now seems that Opec's full ministerial meeting in July will again present a mixed picture. Observers expect the official market price of \$29 a barrel to remain unchanged, and that any increase in production quotas will be marginal, perhaps to 18.2 million barrels.

The monitoring committee has avoided making any recommendation on increasing the quotas.

● A GIANT oilfield of more than 100 million barrels of recoverable oil has been found in the Beaufort sea, about five miles off the coast of Alaska. Shell Oil announced at the weekend. Production should begin in about 10 years.

● J. SAINSBURY, Britain's biggest grocer, was named yesterday the most outstanding international food retailer by the Food Marketing Institute in the United States.

● LORD LEVER is to lead a Commonwealth study of the developing countries' debt problem.

● FOOTWEAR SALES into the trade on an annual comparison rose 7.2 per cent in volume in February, but while imports rose 10.3 per cent British manufacturers delivered only an additional 1.9 per cent into the shops, according to the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation.

● LOW LEVELS of capital investment in some leading British companies are criticized in a survey of capital spending by the 50 largest manufacturing companies published today in *Labour Research*. It says 13 companies, including ICI, Girdler, Rolls-Royce, British Shipbuilders and Lucas were investing less than £1,000 a head in 1982-83, compared with an average of £1,642 and the exceptionally high £5,727 per head invested by Ford Motor Company.

British Sugar plans £2m sales push

By Derek Harris

British Sugar, taken over by S & W Berisford about 18 months ago, is adopting a new sales strategy, with £1m allocated for advertising in magazines and as much again on other promotions.

It could increase its already substantial, though often underestimated, share of the £500m British sugar market, but it is also preparing to launch a wider range of products under the company's Silver Spoon brand.

It is a big chance for British Sugar which spent has comparatively little on marketing. But it already claims 62 per cent of the retail market. Its only big rival is Tate & Lyle. The two companies reportedly share about 86 per cent of the industrial market, supplying food manufacturers and soft drink makers.

The sugar market has been



Peter Gibbs

"Biggest advertising campaign"

declining gradually by about 3 per cent a year. In industrial use of sugar, accounting for about two thirds of consumption, soft drink manufacturers have been using more sugar, while bakery products have used less.

Mr Peter Gibbs, the company's marketing and sales director, said: "This will be the biggest ever advertising campaign by a sugar manufacturer."

New satellite proposals

A British company, Britsat, yesterday unveiled proposals to launch two satellites for direct broadcasts to homes in Britain and Ireland.

The plans were disclosed in anticipation of an announcement today from Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, of a go-ahead for the £400m direct broadcasting satellite programme aimed at meeting the

1987 deadline of the Cable and Broadcasting Bill.

Brisat's plan is to have two satellites orbiting the Earth, beaming television pictures to dish aerials outside people's homes.

Brisat is in competition with United Satellites, which is backed by British Telecom, British Aerospace and GEC-Marconi.

THF stake in Savoy draws bids

By Derek Pain

Trusthouse Forte, the catering and hotel group, has had several approaches to buy its holding in the Savoy Hotel group, it was disclosed yesterday. But Lord Forte, THF chairman, emphasized that the stake was not for sale.

One offer came from Mr Ivan F. Boesky, one of New York's most active share traders. He bid £65m for the THF interest, which represents 69 per cent of the capital but because of the Savoy's two-tier voting structure, only 42.3 per cent of the votes.

Most of the THF shareholding is a legacy from a bitter takeover battle in which THF failed to win control of the Savoy three years ago.

Mr Boesky, who is expected in some quarters to make a higher bid, refused from New York yesterday to confirm his interest in the Savoy. He said: "It is not cricket to comment on any such discussion and negotiations that involve third parties." Mr Boesky, who has hotel interests in the US, added: "We have a great deal of respect for the Savoy."

It also emerged yesterday that Mr Boesky approached the Savoy just after THF's bid failed with a plan to merge the Beverly Hotels Corporation where he is a director, with the Savoy. But the deal failed to win the Savoy board's support.

Firms face tax rise

Budget changes in corporation tax may increase the amount of tax paid by companies, leading the Government to cut the eventual rate of corporation tax from 35 to 30 per cent. Mr Christopher Johnson, group economic adviser, argues in the latest issue of the *Lloyds Bank Economic Bulletin*.

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY – Interims: Smith and Nephew Associated Companies (first quarter), Akroyd and Smithers, Aranson Group, Fredrick Cooper, Five Oaks Investments, MTD (Mangula), Richards. Final: Ambrosia Investment Trust, Barr and Wallace Arnold Trust, British Home Stores, Commercial Bank of the Near East, Costain Group, John Crowther Group, Gamax Booth, Gieves Group, London United Investments, More O'Ferrall, Simon Engineering, Walsby.

TOMORROW – Interims: Associated Paper Industries, Castle (GB), Trafalgar House, Ultramar (first quarter). Final: European Ferries, External Investment Trust, Foster Brothers Clothing, Lee Cooper Group, Oceana Development Investment Trust. THURSDAY – Interims: AE, BOC Group, Fitch Lovell, GR Holdings, Lloyds and Scottish, North Atlantic Securities, Royal Bank of Scotland, Royal Insurance (quarter), Vaux Breweries, Warner Estate Holdings. Final: James Beattie, Dabenhams, Datasat Inc., John Foster, Gerard and National, Holt Lloyd International, King and Saxxon, Porter Chadburn, UEI, Ward White Group.

FRIDAY – Interims: Raliant Motor, O'Ferrall, Smith. Final: Tern-Consulate.

STOCK EXCHANGES

Changes on week

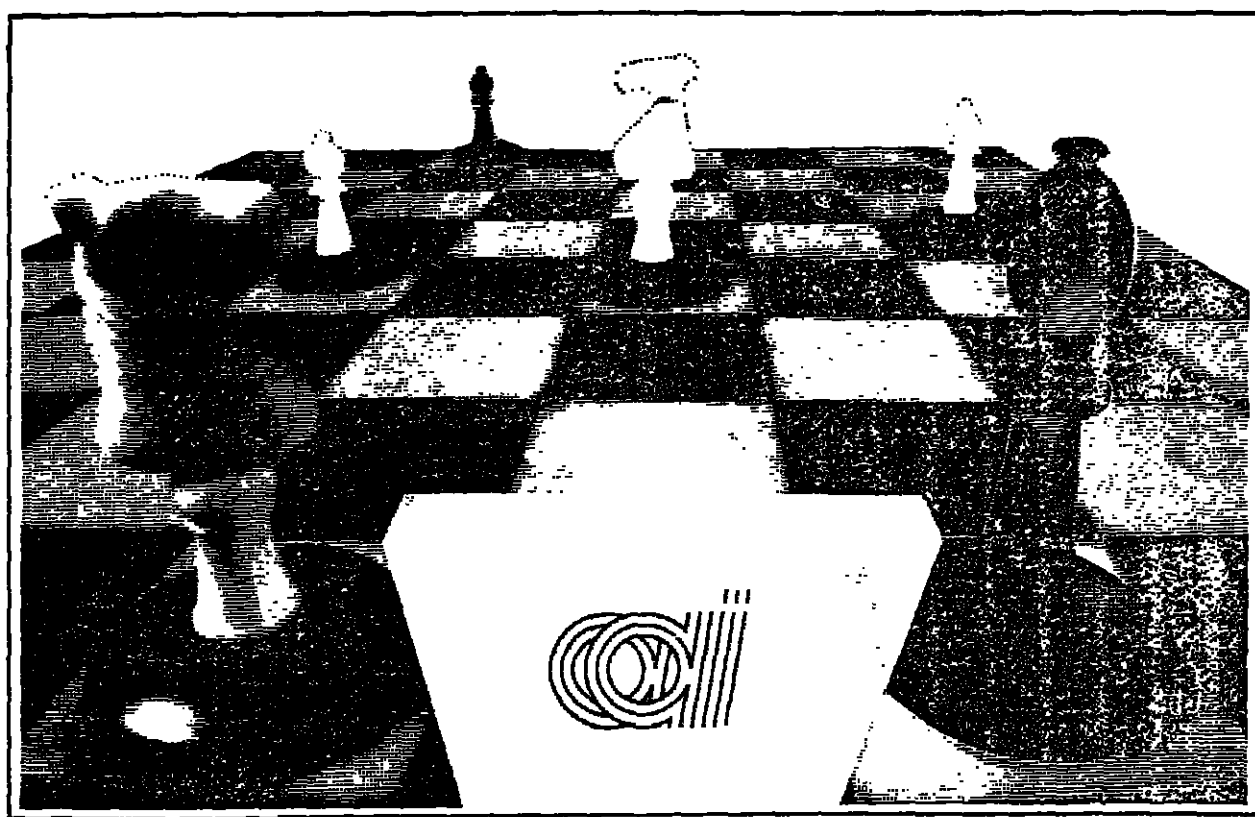
FT-SE 100 Index: 1134.0 down 4.2
FT Index: 915.4 up 7.4
FT 100 Index: 81.02 down 0.96
Barrings: 23.297 up 2.281
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 118.34 up 4.34
New York: Dow Jones Industrial Average (closing) 1165.31 down 9.1
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 11,190.17 up 208.49
Hong Kong: Hang Seng Index 1002.57 down 51.73

CURRENCIES

Changes on week

LONDON CLOSURE
Sterling \$1.4095 up 80pts
Index 80.5 up 0.8
DM 3.8375 up 0.0425
FF 11.7700 up 0.13
Yen 320.00 up 2.0
Dollar Index 129.8 up 0.7
DM 2.7210 up 0.0415
Sterling \$1.4020
Dollar DM 2.7410
INTERNATIONAL
ECU 20.585904
SDR 20.746527

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USM REVIEW

Law stationery group seeks expansion cash

The broader target measure on money, £M3, is in a similar

The major impetus to PSL2 growth in the past few months has come from the building societies. Although they are lending slightly more for mortgages, this lending has not been

edged economist at Simon & Coates, the stockbroker.

Maxwell Newton

Northam has been made managing partner.

BP	284	29	Int Tel Tel
Burlington Ind	374	274	Irving Bank
Burlington Nthn	422	422	Jewel Co
Barrington	522	522	Jim Walter

42%	42%	Aid Of Ohio	45%	47%
47%	48%	Starling Drug	53%	26
11%	11%	Stevens J. F.	21%	20%
12%	12%	Sun Camp	10%	20%
12%	12%	Taladrama	13%	15%
12%	12%	Tennessee	42%	42%
52%	54%	Tesaro	40%	40%
50%	51%	Texas Real Corp	89%	50%
52%	53%	Texas Inst	143%	147%
52%	53%	Texas Utilities	28%	28%
52%	53%	Trotter	28%	28%
52%	53%	TWA	22%	22%
15%	15%	Travelers Corp	32%	32%
52%	53%	TRW Inc	65%	64%

New Zealand ..

14 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7AT

^a Ex div. ^b Asked. ^c Ex distribution. ^d Bid. ^e Market closed. ^f New issue. ^g Stock split.
^h Traded. ⁱ Unquoted.

///

14 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7AT

Edited by Matthew May

A revolution that has yet to happen

Blueprints designed to ensure the survival and expansion of the British and European high technology sectors while ensuring the underdeveloped nations' technology have been in abundance in the last seven days.

The first of those reports to emerge, published by the management and technical consultants PA Technology, was based on a five-nation survey conducted for the group by MORI.

PA concluded that British industry was lagging behind its major overseas competitors and that outdated management structures were to blame for the countries poor record on new product development. The conclusions of the study - conducted among 500 company directors - make grim reading.

A promotion of British business

The researchers said that British businessmen were the least likely group in their test to perceive that new technology would have an impact on their new products or industrial processes.

More than half of the British sample recorded that view. The PA team added: "Two-fifths (39 per cent) of British company directors polled had no defined strategy for innovation and the application of new technology, compared with Belgium (22 per cent), West Germany (27 per cent), USA (36 per cent) and Australia (37 per cent)."

Whatever happened to that high level of awareness which was supposed to prevail in British industry about new technology in the wake of Information Technology Year in 1982?

The awareness may still be high but the motivation is low. One minor consolation was that the Americans - and who would have believed that was possible - have been equally sluggish.

That sluggishness is one of the main reasons for the Americans having been caught by the ingenuity of the Japanese in car manufacturing and is now being bettered by their innovation in semiconductor design and computer manufacture.

Britain bears similar scars, which were self-imposed through the manufacturers belief that the Japanese with little, if any, industrial heritage could not compete with the products from the

home of the industrial revolution let alone better them.

PA was explicit. It said: "The results indicate that companies in Britain and the US have failed to recognize that true innovation lies in pushing back the frontiers to develop new technologies to enter totally new markets."

A strategy for innovation that concentrates on developing existing products for existing markets is really a strategy for stagnation or decline. What is needed is a basic change in management attitudes towards innovation. Managers need to develop positive strategies to lead to the cutting edge of technology. That is where the real growth and prosperity lies."

Another major study emerged last week and agreed that it was time for action. The highly detailed work, The

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone

Challenge of Innovation, was published by the EEC in association with the journal *Futures*. The study outlined a strategy to help the Community improve its performance in Research and Development (R & D) in high technology.

The strategy was designed to stimulate research in energy, chemicals, agriculture and electronics while ensuring the employment prospects remain high and that the benefits of the technologies accrue to the developing world as well as those countries which are advanced. Space and electronics - two of the principal ingredients of the information technology age - must be given prominence, the report concluded.

It said: "The autonomy of Europe's economy (and the diversity of sociocultural identities in Europe) will, to a great extent depend upon the capacity for scientific and technological innovation of Europeans in the space/electro-

nic technology sector. Given the extent of technological change which can be forecast in the course of the next 20 years and the amount of investment in R & D which will be needed to 'keep in the race' (amounts which frequently exceed the capacity of individual countries), the Community effort must be major, competitive and credible."

There is already an £850m, five-year Community project called Esprit (European Programme for Research and Development in Information Technologies). Partnerships between European companies are to be the result of this programme and joint research into advanced computer systems is meant to emerge.

But the EEC/Futures strategy called for similar programmes to be initiated, although on a more modest scale and suggested they direct their attention to other high technology areas like robotics. The relationship between man and machine is a primary part of the Futures strategy. There is a gap in our knowledge of this area, claimed the report.

A strategy to help Europe do better

"Although we are inundated with speeches and hypotheses about man-machine relationships and about grand, global visions on their transformation and their future, the knowledge actually available on the nature of the machines, of the new systems, and of the new networks remains fragmentary, and limited to a few privileged circles."

"The vast field of research which goes under the title of industrial relations is equally in need of a profound renewal."

The final plank of the strategy was to contribute to the technical and scientific development of the Third World. By a curious coincidence the UK Council for Computing Development published at the same time its plan on how it will play its part in helping those developing nations.

The council was created about three years ago and active in a series of projects designed to take British expertise in information technology to those in need overseas. The projects which have taken it overseas have been to help Singapore, Sri Lanka, Egypt, Tunisia, India and Swaziland. Missions have gone to Iraq, Kenya, Kuwait, Morocco, Turkey, Philippines and the United Arab Emirates. The activities range from assisting in feasibility studies to running training courses for senior management and computer personnel. One of the latest projects is to capitalise on the expertise which has given Britain a world first - schools computing.

A coordinator to help in schools

The council is acting as a coordinating body to bring together organizations concerned with developing and implementing schools computing in order to create a UK drive for transferring this expertise to the developing countries ready to move in that direction. The council freely admits: "This project has immediate commercial implications in that useful business would result directly from the activity."

The council, although a registered charity, will be promoting British business as other similar organizations do from other countries. Among the council's members are British Telecom, ICL, Ferranti, ICL, National Computing Centre and Universities of Kent, Liverpool and Salford. Says the council: "It is apparent to most countries that computing has an important and valuable part to play in supporting and stimulating development. Economic and social pressures, will all have the effect of creating demand for information processing power."

Europe is therefore in a state of change. It must develop its own information technology industries to keep abreast of the advances being made by competitors while changing its designs and technologies for the production of new items, for equally as new markets. It must also lift the technological awareness of the developing nations so that any intellectual and commercial transfer can be made possible. This week's three strategies might help Britain and its partners along that road.

The law moves to cover print-outs

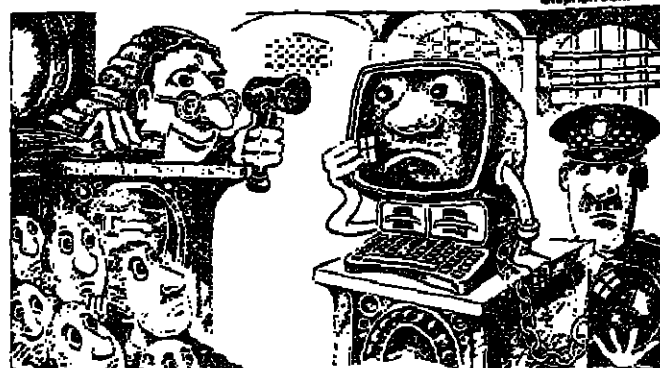
By Alistair Kelman

Four years ago the Court of Appeal decided a case that sent a shudder through the computer industry. It ruled that an automatically generated computer print-out was not an admissible document under the Criminal Evidence Act 1965. (R v. Piggott, 71 Cr App R 39 (1980). In response to this the Government is intending to introduce a clause to the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill which, while stemming the gap exposed by Piggott, presents a new problem - how are the courts going to attach the correct weight to evidence made admissible under this new clause?

Under the Bill, computer print-outs will be admissible if a person occupying a responsible position in relation to the operation of the computer certifies to the best of his knowledge and belief that four conditions regarding the computer and the print-out are satisfied. The print-out must have been produced by the computer during a normal working period. Second that it was produced in the ordinary course of its activities.

Third, that appropriate security measures were in force for preventing unauthorized interference with the computer and that the computer was operating properly. And fourth, that the information contained in the statement reproduces or is derived from information supplied to the computer in the ordinary course of its activities.

The first and second conditions appear to exclude the situation where, after a fraud has occurred in a business, investigating auditors run audit software and produce print-



outs. These print-outs will be produced after the alleged offence has taken place by running special audit software which will check master files for insertion of fraudulent data such as non-existent suppliers, will produce its own totals from entries contained in the files which may differ significantly from the client's totals if false data is in the files and will recalculate certain program logic routines to reveal the insertion of unauthorized logic.

Though audit software is today a key investigating tool, it appears that print-outs produced by investigating auditors would be inadmissible. Since the Bill has been published software houses have shown particular interest in the meaning to be ascribed to "appropriate security measures" to prevent unauthorized interference with the computer. It is not clear what is the minimum level of security that will be required for computer installations. Undoubtedly the use of the term appropriate is meant to imply that the standard is meant to vary with the sensitivity and value of the data stored.

However, guesses on what should be "appropriate measures" vary from expert to expert and with increasing computer literacy among young people it is difficult not to question the adequacy of security in many systems. Clearly, if the security in a system has been breached, it will be hard for the person putting forward computer evidence to be able to swear that security is "adequate". The requirement that the computer was working properly

raises several issues. In some small businesses the person in charge of the computer has no idea what it is doing, how it is doing it or whether it is working properly. The Bill gets around this problem by requiring a person occupying a responsible position in relation to the operation of the computer to certify to the best of his knowledge and belief that the computer was working properly. The fact that he may have no knowledge of the operation of the computer but can certify that it is working properly is ignored. But when the reliability of computer produced information is in issue, a serious problem arises. Generally speaking, lawyers - when presented with a computer print-out containing latent error - do not know what questions to ask of computing personnel. So the only effective protection against erroneous computer records coming before the courts seems to be a framework of professional standards in the computer industry and recognition of the fact that there is a danger of unreliable data being supplied by computer systems as evidence without such standards. It is hoped that rules of court made under this Bill will state that no evidence from a computer system will be admitted in criminal proceedings unless and until a judge, after studying a lengthy statement dealing with the areas from which the computer system could produce errors in the computer print-out, has ruled that the computer system in question has passed a prima facie test of reliability.

£4½m later, nobody calls her crazy

By Roger Woolnough

THE words come tumbling out. The pencil dashes across the page, sketching a diagram. It snaps, and is instantly replaced by a red felt-tip. Soon the paper is covered with a confusion of lines, words and numbers, to be joined by child-like drawings of telephones and computers. Jean Yates is talking about Unix.

Without planning it, she has become the self-appointed prophet of Unix, the operating system developed by American Telephone & Telegraph and now being adopted by increasing numbers of computer companies. She runs a market research company in California, Yates Ventures, which has acquired over 100 clients who pay subscriptions of \$1600 apiece to hear what she has to say.

"We tend to be more speculative and provide more analysis than is available from other firms," Jean Yates says. "We jog everybody loose."

For her jogging people loose started at Christmas 1980, when she told a user group that



worldwide sales of Unix-related hardware and software would be worth \$6,000m (£4,200m) by 1986. "I was known as that crazy woman," she recalls.

"Crazy like a fox. Her latest forecast, enshrined in a weighty volume crammed with numbers and graphs, has increased the figure to a precise \$8,180m, and this projection is considered conservative."

Like others caught up in the microcomputer maelstrom, Jean Yates started at something else. She was selling biochemicals and doing research when her employer transferred her to San Francisco in 1977. She wandered into one of the early computer stores and bought one of the first Apple IIs. She was hooked.

"I had this wonderful idea to change my life," she says. "but I thought I was too late to get into the industry." She started working in a Computerland store for \$400 a month, then

People/Jean Yates of Yates Ventures

began writing about micros. "I discovered that my real niche was understanding where the technology was heading."

That led to a job with Gnostic Concepts, a well-known technology crystal-gazer. Two more years and she was managing all the company's microcomputer market research, discovering Unix along the way. Then Gnostic Concepts was taken over. "I was obnoxious, entrepreneurial, and I knew best."

In May 1982, with \$1500, she set up Yates Ventures in her living room. Turnover hit \$3m in the second year, \$4½m in the third. Now she has 25 people.

As though not quite able to grasp what she has achieved, she sometimes slips into the third person, implying it really all happened to somebody else. "My bank balance is fairly healthy, and we'll see if Jean can branch off into other areas," she says, outlining a scheme to invite housewives to test new software. She recognizes the possibility of failure, but distances herself from it. "Jean may fall on her face. We'll see."

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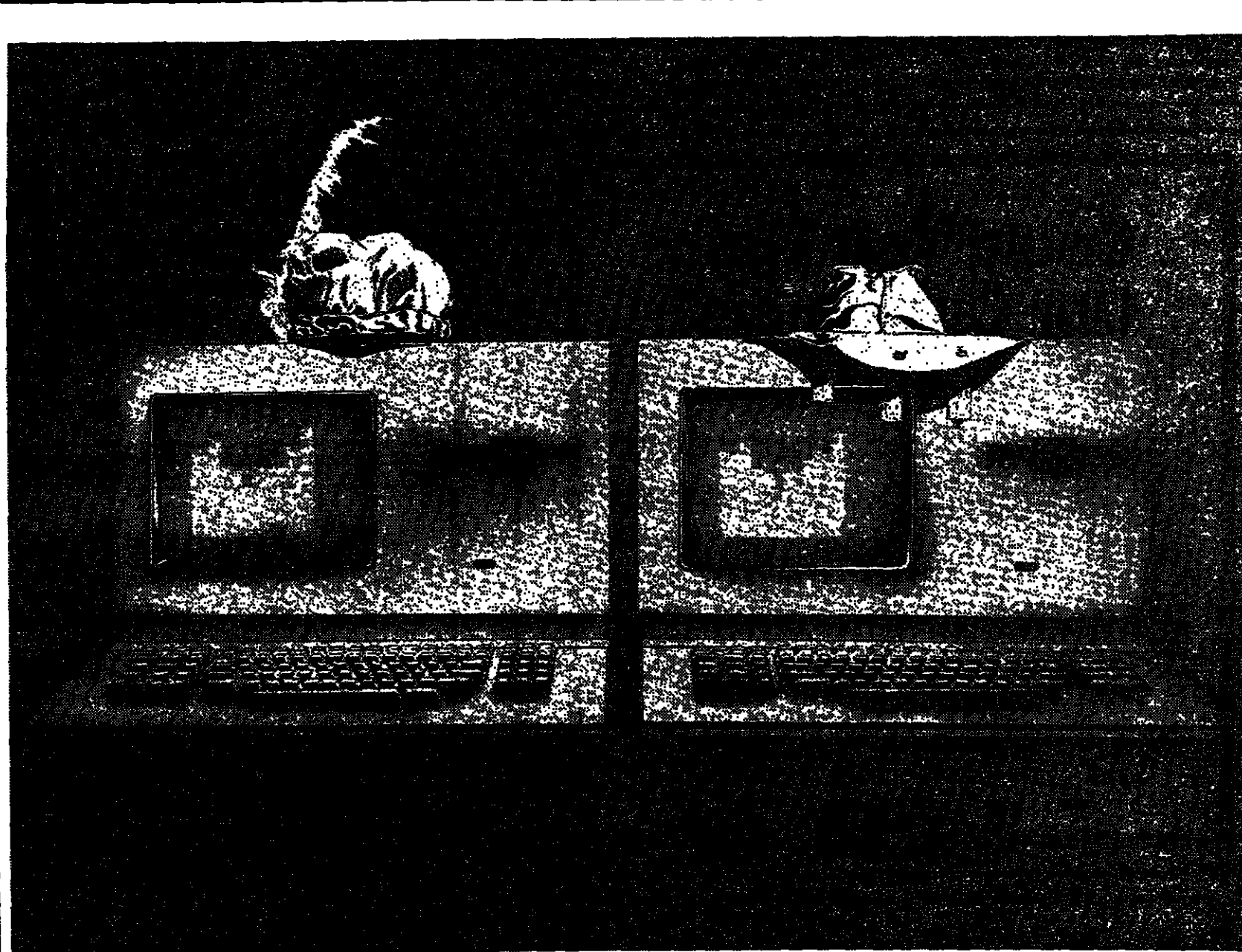
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The new organisation, Saga Wilcox Ltd, will maintain and develop the role of design, manufacture and sale of in-house produced systems which will now be supported by U.S.-developed technology and products. A new CP/M based 8/16 bit microcomputer with networking capability was launched in November 1983. The Company's approach of providing total system solutions is currently sustained with home-produced vertical market software, training, maintenance and customer support.

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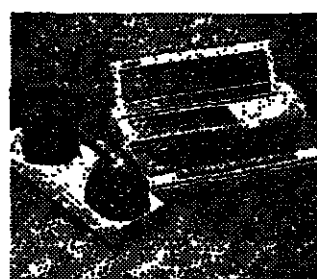
Computant

OK, so who will do the talking?

COMPUTER BRIEFING

Epson's new PX-8

Two years after the launch of its HX-20 portable computer, Epson has unveiled a new, more powerful portable, the PX-8. The size of an A4 pad, it contains 64K of RAM, weighs less than four pounds, has a full size qwerty keyboard, and runs under a version of CP/M. The screen is the new fashionable "pop-up" style, giving an LCD display of 80 characters and eight lines. It is being bundled with a suite of business software, including word processing.



Epson PX-8 with coupler

Army system

A UK consortium, the Total Systems Group, has won a contract from the Ministry of Defence for a command and information system for the British Army. The consortium, which includes System Designers, Paceset and Software Sciences, will spend around six months on the study which will involve battlefield communications, computing and weapons technology. The contract is expected to be worth up to £400,000.

Plug compatible

BASF has announced a new IBM plug compatible computer, the 7/69. It uses 256K chips and offers a speed of up to three million instructions per second (MIPS). Availability starts at the end of the year and it is designed to operate with DOS, VM and MVS operating systems. BASF claims its prices are typically 20 per cent lower than those of IBM.

Lotus finances

Lotus Development Corporation has announced a net income of 7.5 million dollars for the first quarter of 1984, compared with 1.1 million dollars for the same period last year. Lotus produces 1-2-3 a popular integrated software package for micros. Net revenues have risen from 4.8 million dollars for the first quarter of 1983 to 28.3 million dollars for the same period this year.

Decision manager

Peachtree Software has announced an integrated software product, Decision Manager. It combines a financial spreadsheet, word processor, communications data manager and graphics. Up to 20 different projects can be defined with a maximum of 10 displayed on the screen at any time. The package is aimed at users of the IBM PC-XT or PC users with a hard disc. It will be available from July and will cost £625.

French connection

Thomson, which recently launched a £300 home computer in France, is expected to sign an agreement with Philips to market the product together. The micro, the T0770, is one of the first in Europe to use the MSX operating system. MSX is being proposed as a world standard for home computers and if widely adopted would enable purchasers to run software written for one brand of computer on any other using MSX. It has been heavily taken up by Japanese manufacturers which are expected to launch several products with the system in the UK later this year.

Deal for Everyman

Formed only last year from a Belgian parent company, Vector International has succeeded in pulling off a substantial deal with IBM to market its Everyman database system through IBM channels. Under the agreement, the package, which was developed by Smallway of Surrey and currently runs in such diverse environments as the Royal Opera House, BP and the BBC, is the first European-developed product to gain international distribution by IBM. The contract, initially worth £500,000, could be enhanced considerably, says managing director Stewart O'Malley, with the establishment of its marketing operation in the USA, where it is seeking a similar arrangement with IBM.

African conference

The first African conference on computer communications, Africom, is being organized in Tunis from May 21-23 by the Tunisian Centre National de l'Informatique and the Tunisian Faculty of Science. The Rome-based Intergovernmental Bureau for Informatics says it will demonstrate at the conference IBINET, the IBM international data transmission network. IBINET's purpose is to offer developing countries access to information on a cost-effective system and to enhance their dialogue with the industrialised countries.

Valid Chips

A brand-new "machine tool" - a super high-tech chip that is plugged in to a computer - has been launched by Valid Logic Systems. The device, called Valid "Reelchip", can do 13 minutes of simulation in 2 seconds and handle half a million evaluations a second. Philip Smith, Valid director of sales in Europe, says: "This is a real chip. It is a new technology that has never been done before. It is extremely valuable to the computer industry because if the simulation can get a project right at the design stage, then all systems will work at later stages and there will be no design faults". Basic price: from £25,000.

Welsh floppy

The first floppy disk to be manufactured in Britain has been introduced by Control Data Wales. It plans to distribute the disks in high-street retail shops aimed at the home-computer user. Control Data Wales, Europe's largest and the world's second-largest magnetic media manufacturing plant, is based in Gwent. The new production means a further 100 jobs for the region.

PC shortage

The shortage in supplies of IBM Personal Computer, the PC, shows no sign of easing. IBM's original price of \$1,995, which limited dealers to one machine a month, has now been dropped. Instead, a percentage of forecast orders will be delivered as IBM has received many complaints from larger dealers claiming the fixed quota was unfair.

BBC Graduates

BBC micro owners can now upgrade their computers into IBM PC compatible business machines according to Data Technologies of Cambridge. It has launched "The Graduate" - a system which offers either one or two disc drives, and plugs into the BBC's 1 Mhz bus. Prices start from £599.

Acom stake

Acom Computers, manufacturers of the BBC micro, has taken a 25 per cent stake in Torus Systems. Torus is to launch a graphics-controlled, local-area network, the IBM PC at the heart of the network. The product will integrate communications facilities, such as electronic mail, Prestel and telephone dialling, with networking facilities and applications software in an office automation system which is claimed to be highly user-friendly. It will use the Ethernet local area network.

Contributors John Earle, Geoffrey Ellis, Matthew May, Mark Stone.

UK Events

Computer, Business Systems & Communications Equipment Exhibition - Micro City, Bristol Exhibition Centre, Canons Road, City Centre, Bristol, May 15-17.
DEC User Show, Novotel Hotel, London, W8, May 15-17.
Walthamstow '84, Main Exhibition Hall, Waltham Forest Technical College, Forest Road, London E17, May 19.
RIBA Computer Exhibition, Bloomsbury Crest Hotel, Cornhill Street, London WC1, May 22-24.
Apple '84, Futurum Centre, Slough, May 24-26.
Office Automation Show, London Barbican, June 7-9.
5th International Commodore Show, Novotel Hotel, Hammersmith, London, W6, June 7-9.

Overseas

Compec Europe Centra International Rogier, Brussels, May 8-10.
International Computer Show for Office, Home, Hobby, Cologne, Germany, June 14-17.

Compiled by Personal Computer News

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Poachers, gamekeepers and leaping the fence

By Richard Sharpe

There is a clear divide in the computer community between the vendor and the user. Both are dependent on each other but are wary of giving away too much to the other side. After all, the computer vendor that pours support into a user site and cuts the price to get the order will lose money. Equally, the computer department manager who pays over the odds for a mundane system is not serving the best interests of his employer.

There are, therefore, very few instances of the user, essentially the poacher in this tale, turning into the gamekeeper and joining the vendor.

The man who has been the best-known manager of a computer user department in the UK made that switch. Peter Hermon was head of data processing at British Airways. He had established the trend to replace IBM equipment with compatible kit made by another supplier and the trend of getting an independent company in to maintain the computers, replacing the vendor of the lucrative business of maintaining the equipment.

Having made these two blows for user independence, Hermon is now firmly in the seat of gamekeeper as the head of Tandem's UK operation. Tandem make a range of fault-tolerant computers.

JOB SCENE

Tandem used a head hunter to find Hermon, who was not brought in for his knowledge of the Tandem product line but because of his proven track record as a manager of a fast-growing operation which needs new management controls to make sure that the growth it achieves is profitable and manageable.

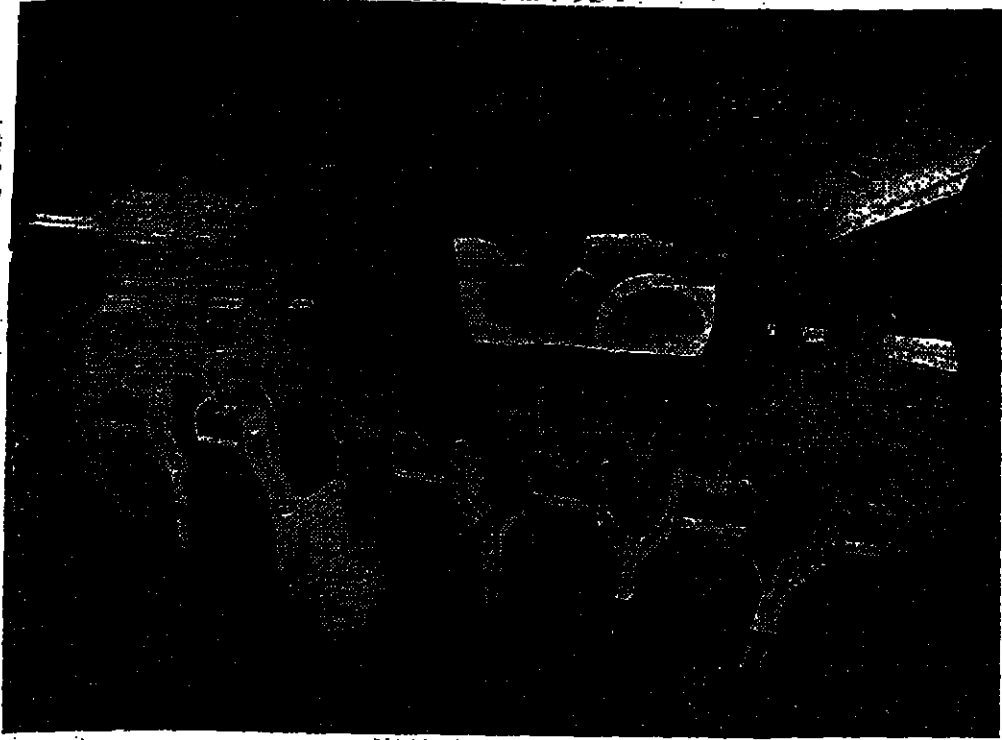
Quite a common route for the poacher-turned-gamekeeper is the data processing manager who uses a product and becomes convinced of its value. Such data processing managers tend to be used as reference sites by the vendor of the product and are even paraded around to other users as a marketing aid. Eventually someone realises that the user knows more about the product and can talk more convincingly to other users than the professional marketing team.

One such gamekeeper is Terry Booth, head of the US software vendor Cincom in the UK. Booth used Cincom's teleprocessing monitor when a user in the UK food industry joined Cincom as a result.

Some poachers would never turn into gamekeepers, whatever the size of salary on the other side of the fence. They get too much enjoyment from twiddling the nose of the rather stuffy sales representatives the main vendors seem to favour, making the signing of a contract a major event and doing so only after a long drawn out process of negotiation.

These dedicated user managers revel in their freedom to run down their vendor and wrong-foot the salesman in the belief that the game is as interesting as the outcome.

roup
cash



Artist's impression of the interior of the 40-seat capsule for the Toronto tour

All the fun of the universe

By Paul Walton

All the sensations of space travel are promised this year from an advanced computer simulation system. By the end of the decade a go-anywhere, do-anything simulator could be available to the public - at a price.

"Tour of the Universe" is the first commercial ride of its kind, from Rediffusion Simulation. Two of these rides are due to begin at a Toronto theme park in the autumn. The 40-seat space module will voyage into the year 2019 as conceived by the American space agency, NASA, for 75 minutes.

A million-dollar film is being shot in Hollywood, using the same effects as films like 2001 and Close Encounter of the

Using technology which

simulates aircraft. Rediffusion Simulation now believes it can recreate any experience. Its first public simulator will be sold by Toronto-based Interactive Entertainment Inc.

The British might get a chance to take a tour if Rediffusion's parent, British Electric Traction, decides to install a simulator at its planned theme park at Corby.

A "rapid reconfiguration" multi-purpose personal experience simulator, the size of a small car could cost around £350,000 to £500,000 before the end of the eighties. One day it could be possible to buy software to experience a bobsleigh ride one day, a racing car circuit the next.

A chance to join in the puzzle books

Times Books and Sidwick & Jackson will be publishing two new books on September 30 - *The Times Book of Computer Puzzles and Games for the Commodore 64* and *The Times Book of Computer Puzzles and Games for the Sinclair Spectrum*. These books will contain stimulating and challenging games and puzzles which can be played and solved using a Commodore 64 or Sinclair Spectrum.

Readers are invited to submit their own games and puzzles for inclusion. A panel of well-known personalities within the computer industry will judge the best submissions. There will be two first prizes of an Epson HX-20 portable computer and five second prizes of a Maplin Modern for the games or puzzles considered by the judges to be the most stimulating and original.

All other readers whose submissions are included will receive a £10 W. H. Smith gift voucher and their names as authors will be published alongside their program.

Readers who wish to submit their entries should:

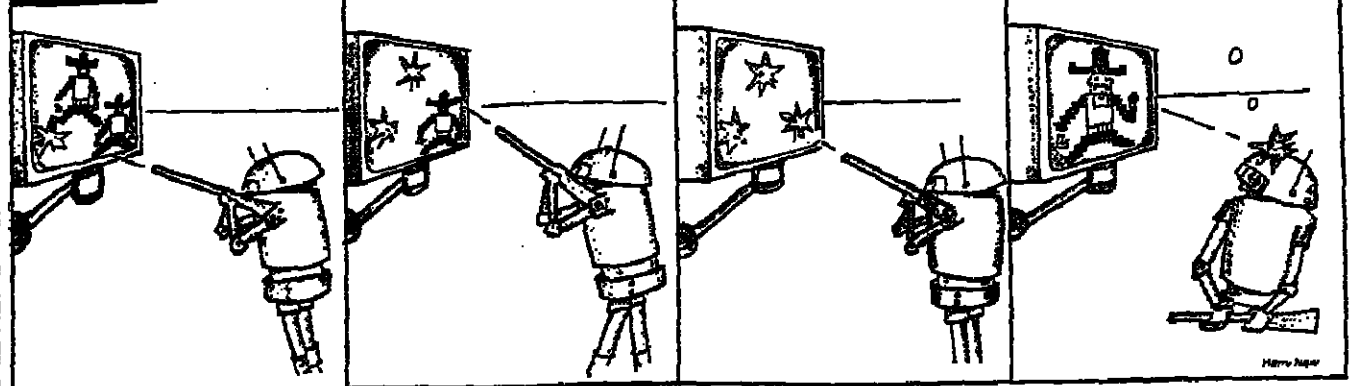
Send the program listing, written in BASIC (not machine code), preferably on a cassette, to the address below:

Include a short synopsis of the object of the game or puzzle, a brief description of what should happen when the program is run and an indication of level of difficulty.

All entries, which will be acknowledged, must be received by June 30. Those entries included in the books will carry the names of the authors and retain their copyright. Please send your entry to:

● The Times Book of Computer Puzzles and Games, c/o Newtch Publishing Limited, 8 Forge Court, Reading Road, Yateley, Camberley, Surrey GU17 7RX.

8608



Is compuspeak doomed?

by Richard Sarson

Many lay people object strongly to the jargon used by people employed in the computer industry to describe their wares. Such words as "digital", "parameter", "file", "mode", "bit" and "random access" repel ordinary human beings. They look like English, but they do not have the same meanings as the words listed in the Oxford English Dictionary.

They are usually combined in curious ways, like "print file", "control file", "file structure". The main difficulty is that there is no way of knowing what part of speech the words are. Are "control" and "file" verbs or nouns? Without the specialist's insight, the layman loses his way, and consequently tends to lose patience with the whole computer scene.

Orwell prophesied that we would all be talking newspeak. Instead, what we have is compuspeak, the amalgamation of technical, commercial and managerial jargons spoken by computer people. Compuspeak resembles newspeak in some rather sinister ways.

The purpose of newspeak was "to provide a medium of expression for the world-view and mental habits" of the Inner and Outer Parties of Ingsoc (English Socialism), and to make "all other modes of thought impossible".

Compuspeak, the jargon of computer professionals, is similarly elitist, and similarly, tends to linguistic imperialism.

Compuspeak, the jargon of computer professionals, is similarly elitist, and the tendency among computer people to liken the whole of life to the workings of a computer system and consequently to reduce all language to Compuspeak, is linguistic imperialism. Compuspeak attempts to invade and colonize English.

It is inevitable and right that some compuspeak words will rub off on English, as the Raj brought bungalow and calico into the language. "Debug", for instance, (to correct a program) is splendidly punchy, direct and graphic. But computer people should not be the arbiters of the language.

This is a particularly important moment to check the pretensions of Compuspeak. Advances in artificial intelligence are bringing computing up against neurology, psychology and philosophy.

Brash young computer people can reduce their interchanges with psychologists and philosophers to total incoherence, if they insist on imposing their outlandish new dialect. They must learn to pick their words with care.

Fortunately there is within the computer industry itself a corrective to the worst excesses of the compuspeakers. In that the explosive growth of the industry is making it less elitist. In the past it was computer professionals who made the

decisions to buy the large mainframes and minis while computer hobbyists and engineers bought the first generations of micros. Now, however, it will be laymen who make the decisions to buy the computers of the future. Car drivers no longer have to be motor mechanics and similarly, computer-users will have neither the interest nor aptitude in the mental gyrations that make a good computer-man. To them computers will be tools and the less they are wrapped up in mumbo-jumbo the more saleable they will be.

To respond to this new market force the designers of the more advanced software for micros are rejecting the technical sounding compuspeak vocabulary and replacing it with one which bears more resemblance to English. "Tools" have replaced "programs", and "documents" have replaced "data files". The designers are at last trying to demystify and de-skill the computer by anglicizing the language of computers.

So in its search for mass-markets the computer industry may make a welcome return to English leaving compuspeak as a Mandarin language for academics. This would be no loss as compuspeak is an inelegant and imprecise language, surprising considering it describes machines which should be by their nature both elegant and precise.

New micro for small business

By Matthew May

WH SMITH is to sell a new small business and personal computer - the Advance 86 - developed by a company based in North London.

Such is the confidence of the high street retailer in this British micro that it is to drop the well-known Apple IIe from its stores.

The Advance, which is being manufactured by Ferranti, comes in two versions. The business version, the 86B, comes with two disc drives and four programs.

Of particular interest is the claim that the 86B will run virtually all of the vast amount of software available for the IBM PC without change.

Other manufacturers' micros which claim to run IBM PC software vary greatly in how compatible they really are. If the 86B is fully compatible it will be a strong contender in the PC compatible market as it costs only £1500, more than £1000 cheaper than its IBM rival.

WH Smith will also be selling a £300 version of the Advance which offers 128K of memory and works with a domestic tape recorder. It has an exclusive deal on the sale of the computer and has ordered £2 million worth from Ferranti. The decision to drop the Apple IIe was prompted by disappointing sales the company stated.

The challenge ahead for Sir Michael

by Kevin Pearson

Today sees the start of negotiations between the ICL management and its unions about the annual pay claim. For Sir Michael, Edwardes, who took over the chairmanship of ICL a little over a month ago, it is likely to mark the start of an increasingly challenging time in his bid to steer the company into the forefront of information technology.

By his own admission two of his stumbling blocks come from inside the company: too low a productivity compared with other companies and, he claims, the wrong attitude. Especially, he faces the might and market domination of US giant IBM; and the threat of American Telephone & Telegraph, the US telecommunications company which dwarfs even IBM.

Sir Michael has been brought into ICL to provide the managerial trouble-shooting and strategic planning expertise he showed in getting British Leyland on the road back to profitability.

Initially a major part of Sir Michael's job will be to change the managerial structure of the



company and to make it more adaptable to the needs of a rapidly changing market. He is not the first senior executive to be brought into ICL to attempt these changes. Others who tried have failed, and that is partially why ICL found itself in such difficulties at the start of the 1980s.

The company's plight can be seen by a comparison with IBM UK. Five years ago the two were of broadly similar shape and size, with similar shares of the UK market. In 1983 IBM UK had a turnover of more than £1.6m, twice ICL's last reported annual turnover. Yet IBM employs only about 16,000 people in the UK; ICL has a workforce of more than 22,500. It is not an entirely fair comparison as IBM is a worldwide organization but it does illustrate the scale of Sir Michael's problems.

There was speculation of a potential conflict between Sir Michael and ICL managing director Robb Wilmot, when Sir Michael's appointment was announced. Both have been keen to play it down. Wilmot is responsible for ICL's overall operations - from product strategy, development, through production to marketing and sales," says Sir Michael.

Much of the product and market strategy is already in place, from the joint development links with Fujitsu of Japan, and Canadian telecommunications manufacturer Mitel to the recently announced network services division and the joint plan, with 12 other leading information technology companies - but not IBM - to promote international open systems standards for linking computers. ICL is planning a lot of its hopes on open standards.

In the past ICL has been criticized for being, or trying to be, a mini IBM by offering products to compete in each area with those of the industry leader. That still holds true today. ICL has products to compete with IBM right across the line, from micros to mainframes - it even markets a large mainframe, built by Fujitsu, which runs IBM programs. But it has not been successful in this venture as it has sold only four systems in two years against projected sales of 12 in the first year.


What Mr Wilmot has done is collaborate in developing products, rather than doing it internally. Fujitsu, for example, is developing two mainframe systems for ICL. They will be compatible with the current 2900 series computers and will provide a much needed boost to that product line.

Large scale systems still account for about 40 per cent of ICL's overall business. And the systems being developed by Fujitsu, a medium sized computer, code named the DM 1, and the larger Estriel, will undoubtedly help to sustain this sector of the company's business. But is unlikely that they will help ICL capture a larger slice of the mainframe market, despite independent estimates that growth in this sector is averaging around 40 per cent a year.

Most of that growth is in the IBM part - its share having risen for 75 per cent of the top end market to 90 per cent in the last four years. Its rivals in the mainframe market have stood still in absolute terms, while their market shares have fallen.

ICL's product strategy looks good on paper, but the question is whether it will take ICL forward to the rewards available in the still burgeoning information technology marketplace. There are those who, while wishing ICL every success, feel it may be too late. The company is adapting fast, but it still has the legacy of the 1970s to overcome.

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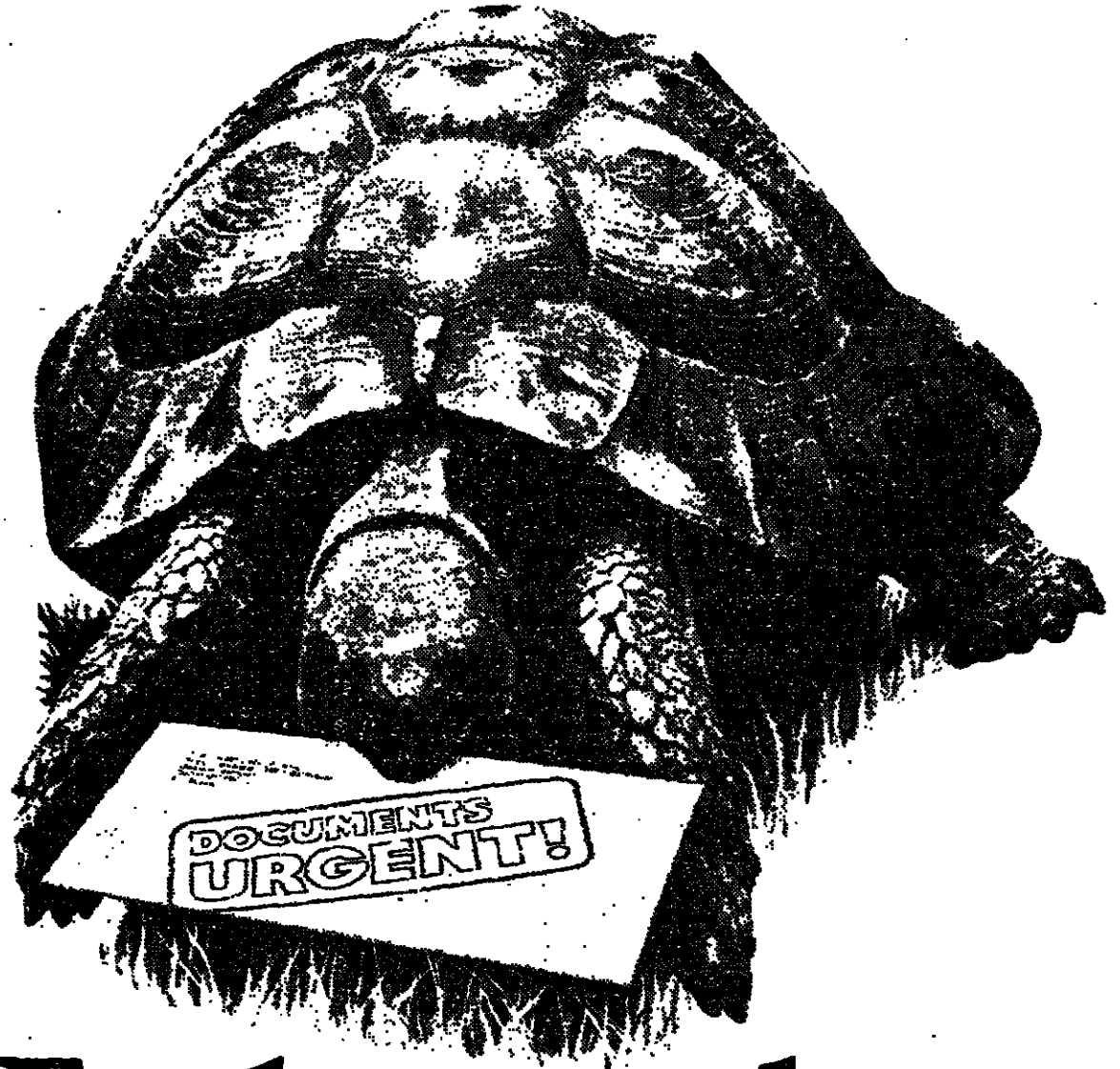
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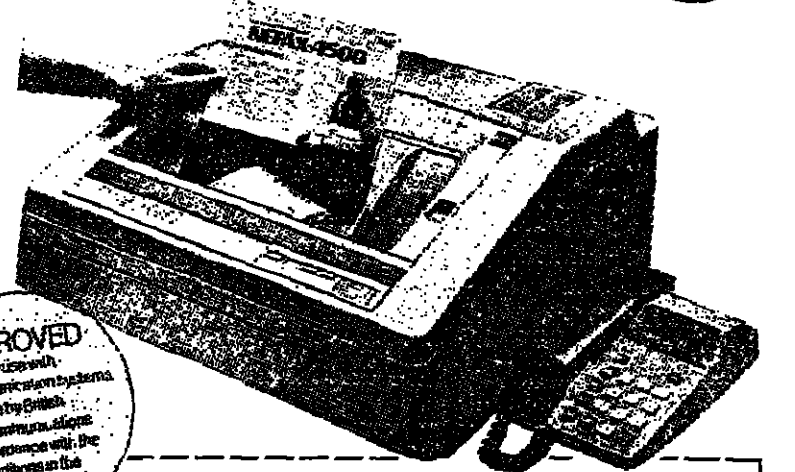
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 9.00 **Boswell's Wildlife Safari** to Mexico: The Sea of Cortez and its photogenic ecology (r).
 9.25 **Praise Be With Thora** (r).
 10.00 **Cee-fax**: 10.30 Play School with Johnny Ball (r).
 10.55 **Gardeners' World**. Joyce Johnson's mini Eden in Cheltenham is ablaze with bonal and alpine (r). 11.20 **Cee-fax**.
 12.30 **News**, weather, 12.57 **Financial Review** and news headlines (London only).
 1.00 **Pebble Mill** at One. Saxophonist John Harle, who plays classical music with the London Sinfonietta, and song opera with the session orchestra used for *Dalies*. 1.45 **Misses and the Master**: West: Naughty and Forgetful (r).
 2.00 **Racing from Chester** covers the 2.15, 2.45, 3.15 races. 3.55 **Play School**. 4.20 **The Hunter**. 4.25 **Professor Popper's Problems**. They are occasioned by a couple of crooks in this episode. Charlie Drake is the Prof. 4.40 **Cheggers** Play Pop. Team games with music guests from Modern Romance.
 5.05 **John Craven's Newsworld**. 5.10 **Think Again**. Auto cutting, with Johnny Ball (r).
 5.40 **Sixty Minutes**: News, weather, regional magazines at 5.55, closing headlines at 5.58.
 6.40 **You Don't See the Wood...** David Bellamy explains how trees have evolved a highly efficient system of conductive tissue to ensure they make the most of available water.
 7.05 **Blankety Blank**. Selected repeat of Terry Wogan teases involves Kenny Everett, Windsor Davies, Sandra Dickinson, Beryl Reid, Larry Grayson (r).
 7.40 **A Question of Sport**. For soccer stars Gary Sneyd and David O'Leary, speedway's Bobby Schwartz, cricketer Richard Hadlee, and resident players Bill Beaumont and Emyr Hughes.
 8.10 **Dalies**. Peter's arrest interferes with J.P.'s equilibrium for a millisecond, and Mark makes a grim discovery.
 9.00 **News**, weather.
 9.25 **The Golden Land**. Whether the sobering experience of working as a Nationwide reporter in Northern Ireland was a contributory factor to his growing a long beard, putting on a Cheshire rock coat and taking Orthodox Judaism to the top of New York, Daniel Brock's mother thinks that it's not much of a job for good Jewish boy. At Goldstein, the "Jewish atheist" pornography purveyor and editor of *Screw*, believes that "Jewish man is chained and manacled by the Jewish mother". Between the two, Desmond Wilcox finds a patch of common ground in this middle part of his trilogy on American Jews, which ends rather wincingly in the ritual circumcision of an eight-day-old baby. One almost expected director David Green to add the customary filmmaker's call of "Cut and wrap".
 10.15 **Comedians**. Wales v the North East in the returned ballroom competition. Broadway dancer Vicki Regan and Peter Maxwell provide a tribute to Hollywood.
 11.00 **Night Music**. By New Zealand singer Tina Cross. Her guest, John Miles (r).
 11.45 **News**, weather.
 11.50 **Closedown**.

tv-am

- 6.25 **Good Morning Britain**: Nick Owen and Anne Diamond present news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30, 9.00; sport at 6.35, 7.35; **Alarm Call** at 6.45, 8.45; pop at 7.52; Video Report by Giles Brandrath at 8.35; Rustie Lee the cook at 9.05; Today's guest is Suzanne Danielle at 7.40.

ITV/LONDON

- 9.25 **Thames News Headlines**.
 9.30 **For Schools**: Arithmetic with puppets. 9.45 **Adverbs**. 10.04 **A Spring day** on the farm. 10.23 **Religious education**. 10.43 **The Russian Revolution** in November 1920. 11.08 **Ways with words**. 1.25 **Stop, Look, Listen**. At the train station. 11.38 **The French Programme**.
 12.00 **Om and Cheep**. Puppets. 12.10 **Rainbow**. 12.30 **The Sullivan**.
 1.00 **News**, weather.
 1.20 **Thames News**.
 1.30 **A Plus** looks into school-age heroin abuse.
 2.00 **Take the High Road**.
 2.30 **Safe From the Sea**. The formal opening of the Thames Barrier by the Queen and Prince Philip. Having made their way down river to Woolwich by the Royal Navy, the royal couple will press the button that should raise the barrier's huge defences against the incoming tide. London's new tower accounts for eight years' labour and £520 million.
 4.30 **Twenty Pie**.
 4.45 **CBTV**.
 5.15 **Emmerdale Farm**. Mrs Bates demands a police inquiry into her dog's death.
 5.45 **News**.
 6.00 **Thames News**. Includes highlights of the Thames Barrier opening.
 6.20 **Help! A Festival for Volunteers** in Hertfordshire.
 6.30 **Crossroads**. Sid can't make out Mavis.
 6.55 **Safe From the Sea**. Recaps London's big day.
 7.30 **Give Us a Clue**. Celebrity charades involve Honor Blackman, Lorraine Chase, Angela Douglas, against Larry La Rue, George Sewell, Michael Barrymore.
 8.00 **Hollywood or Bust**. Would-be Clark Gables, Joan Crawford, Robert Redford etc from the audience are put in their place by Bruce Forsyth in this acting challenge.
 9.00 **The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes**: The Naval Treaty. Arthur Conan Doyle's analytical hero played in this extremely doctored series by James Brett looks into the disappearance of a document detailing a top-secret pact between the government and Italy. It had been in the care of the Foreign Minister's nephew, a young diplomat, now in disgrace. David Gwillim plays him. Alison Silk is his anxious fiancée and Gareth Thomas her brother. David Burke completes the pack, as the circumspet Dr Watson.
 10.00 **News at Ten**, followed by **Thames News Headlines**.
 10.30 **The British Desk**. Disturbing dossier of dirty tricks perpetrated by their own admission, by South African intelligence agents in the UK. (see choice).
 11.30 **Casablanca**. The new belly dancer at the Blue Parrot asks Rick to cash gold ingots and he is accused of consorting with the Free French. David Sumner plays the role. Sumner is portrayed by Humphrey Bogart, and apparently originally intended for Ronald Reagan.
 12.15 **Night Thoughts** by deaconess Helen Starns, followed by **Closedown**.



Ade Edmondson: The Young Ones (BBC 2, 9.00pm)

It's not so much the sound of whistles but the sound of the British Desk (ITV, 10.30pm), a disturbing dossier on South African intelligence operations in the UK in recent years. And the Joshua of the piece is undoubtedly Eschel Rhoades, the former Information Secretary in the South African government, who supplies the details with the self-satisfaction of a bad job well done. Apart from one sensational disclosure - that two British MPs were paid by South Africa for spying on anti-apartheid campaigners - there is little that hasn't already been published in this exhaustive expose by Nicholas Claxton for Central TV. With a £50m budget, Cabinet-approved, he claims, Mr Rhoades and the acrid, anonymous Bureau of State Security bought a substantial interest in the UPTN International

BBC 2

- 6.05 **Open University: Cubism**. 6.30 **Michelangelo: The Last Judgement**. 6.55 **Genetic Expression**. 7.20 **Science Summer School**. 7.45 **Physics**. 8.10 **Closedown**.
 9.09 **Daytime on Two**: Town and Country Italy. 9.24 **Cee-fax**. 9.48 **Maths at Work**. 10.10 **Sex education for Juniors**. 10.35 **Cleveland in decline**. 11.00 **Traces**. 11.17 **Computer Club**. 11.40 **Ministrating problems**. 11.48 **Conversational German**. 12.03 **Cee-fax**. 2.00 **You and Me**. 2.15 **British School Theatre**. 2.35 **Cee-fax**.
 5.10 **The Black English Case**. The way they speak can hold back black pupils in American schools.
 5.35 **News summary**, weather.
 5.40 **Speak Out**. Should micro be for men only? Youngsters discuss why girls don't seem to be showing much interest in the computer craze.
 6.10 **Paddies Up**. Women-only heat in the canoeing competition (r).
 6.40 **Tucker's Luck**. Will it hold out for his important interview in this last episode?
 7.05 **The Smiths**. Whistle Test concert by the currently successful rock band.
 7.30 **The Last River of Gaping Gill**. Intrepid cameraman Sid Percival's pioneering film followed a search for a waterway under the Yorkshire Dales (r).
 8.00 **Timewatch: The Conquest and the Conqueror**. 1066 and all that (see choice).
 9.00 **The Young Ones**. And a great rejoicing should there be throughout the land, as the gloriously anarchic manage-a-quatre returns. Ade Edmondson, Christopher Ryan, Nigel Planer and co-writer Nigel Planer impersonate the vile Vyvyan, super-cool Mike, leanti-head Neil and bug-eyed Rick, while Giff Rhys Jones and Mel Smith are their first visitors.
 9.35 **One Man and His Dog**. From yon bonnie bonnie banks, another season of the home international sheepdog trials. To begin, three Scotsmen put their dogs through their paces above Loch Lomond.
 10.20 **Private Lives**. The upmarket chat show returns with hostess Mona Aitken, whose idea it was, leading her guests - no less than Princess Michael of Kent and Sir Stephen Spender - with prearranged cues (most journey/meal/music) to elicit an anecdotal response. The result is a cosy, civilised tête-à-tête with little sense of danger or surprise.
 11.00 **Nightwatch**.
 11.45 **Foxwatch**. Nocturnal tabs on a foxes' earth in Bristol, filmed by infra-red cameras in 1979 (r).
 12.05 **Open University: Calculus**. 12.30 **Word processors**.
 1.00 **Closedown**.

CHANNEL 4

- 4.45 **Countdown**. Word game.
 5.15 **Kill or Cure?** Compensations - a Penny for Your Pains concludes Joan Sheraton's repeated series of medical examinations on a frustrated note, with the difficulties patients face if they seek recompense for prescribed drugs that do them bodily harm. The problem is that plaintiffs must prove negligence by the drug company or the doctor, a near-impossible task in practice (r).
 6.00 **Old Country**. Out-of-town reflections from West Countryman Jack Hargreaves.
 6.30 **Whose Town is It Anyway?** Power-to-the-people series worries about the future of local government and looks to Sheffield City Council, to typify a radical reaction to grass roots decision-making. Recent policies have tried to help local industry, provide locally-based social services and set up centres for the unemployed.
 7.00 **Channel 4 News**.
 7.50 **Comment** is courtesy of Norman Strauss, a former policy advisor to Mrs Thatcher.
 8.00 **Brookside**. Career girl Heather experiences awkward moments in her new job, in this episode by Susan Priest, whose alter mater was Coronation Street.
 8.30 **A What It's Worth**. The doctory consumer weekly answers an appeal from a band of followers in Wales who have a tricky housing problem. John Stoneborough continues to pursue "the king of the cowboy builders".
 9.00 **Film: Invasion of Privacy** (1983). Careful adaptation (by Elaine Muelier) of Joan Taylor's novel. Asking For It. The film, directed by Mel Damski, though a female director might have brought added conviction, deals with the way that society still tends to view victims of rape with suspicion. Thus, when an attractive divorcee from the big city determines to bring her attacker to trial, her own morality is closely scrutinised by a xenophobic island community. Valerie Harper, better known as TV's Rhoda, plays her powerfully, with support from Cliff De Young (local police chief), Carol Kane and Richard Masur (sympathetic neighbours). Jerry Orbach (ex-husband) and Tammy Grimes.
 10.50 **Black on Black**. With Eartha Kitt and Sade, plus reports on how health cuts could affect black nurses and a new play about Mary Seacole, the Jamaican nurse who tended the wounded in Crimea.
 11.40 **Ian Breckwell's Continuum**. Diary. Childhood souvenirs.
 11.55 **Closedown**.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
 (r) Repeat. (r) Repeat.

CHOICE

TV news agency, planned to buy the Guardian and the Observer and perpetrated a series of bombings and burglaries on anti-apartheid offices in London. And the programme was run from the South African embassy in Trafalgar Square. The recent Libyan People's Bureau affair reminds us not to be so surprised. What is most disturbing is that, like Nelson at his court-mart, our authorities seem to have turned a blind eye to it all. The Norman Conquest was a Good Thing, according to Messrs Selby and Festman, and the evidence ranged for us in TIMEWATCH: The Conquest and the Conqueror (BBC2, 8.00pm) very largely agreed. Between fascinating filmed inserts, persuasive John Tusa and assembled academics set

about restoring the image of William the Conqueror (who believed he had a hereditary right to the English throne) and smudging that of poor Harold Godwinson, who was overthrown and beheaded. The programme also comes up with a splendid solution to one of the mysteries of the Norman Conquest, the perpetuation of English as our language. This, it seems, was thanks to the influence of English nannies in charge of the invaders' children. The other most memorable date in English history is probably 1666, and The Great Fire of London is evoked in HISTORY REFLECTED (Radio 4, 7.50pm) by a collection of poetry and prose compiled by John Carroll.

Radio 4

- 6.00 **News Briefing**: Weather. 6.10 **Farming Week** from Scotland. 6.35 **Shipping Forecast**. 6.50 **Today**, including 6.50, 7.20, 8.30 **News Summary**. 6.55 **Prayer for the Day**. 6.55, 7.55 **Weather**. 7.0, 8.0 **Today's News**. 7.20 **Pop Letters**. 7.55 **Sport**. 7.55 **Thought for the Day**. 8.43 **The Houdini Nights** by Clarence Selby (second of two parts). 8.57 **Weather**. Travel. 9.00 **News**. 9.50 **Tuesday Call**: 01-580 4411. 10.00 **News**. 10.30 **Morning Story**: "Watching Mrs Gordon" by Ronald Franks. 10.45 **Desire**. Travel. 10.50 **News**. Travel. 11.00 **Minute Theatre**: "A Moth in the Closet" by Jeremy Kingston. 11.33 **World**. 11.50 **News**. 12.00 **News**. 12.05 **Consumer advice**. 12.27 **Brain of Britain 1984** (r). A Nationwide general knowledge quiz. 12.55 **Weather**. Programme News. 1.00 **The World at One**: News. 1.40 **The Archers**. 1.55 **Shipping Forecast**. 2.00 **News**. Woman's Hour. 2.00 **News**. 2.05 **Afternoon Theatre** (r). "River Sunday" by Gill Lindsay. 4.00 **News**. What She Needs is a Wife. 4.05 **John Ryder**. Smith looks at how women cope with a career and a family. 4.40 **Story Time**: "Time After Time" by Jolly Kears. 5.00 **PM: News Magazine**. 5.50 **Shipping Forecast**. 5.55 **Weather**. Programme News. 6.00 **The Six O'Clock News**: Financial Report. 6.30 **Silence** (r) with Richard Jordan. 6.35 **Afternoon Theatre** (r). "The Archers". 7.00 **News**. 7.05 **The Archers**. 7.20 **The Archers**. 7.30 **The Archers**. 7.40 **The Archers**. 7.50 **News**. 7.55 **News**. 8.00 **News**. 8.05 **News**. 8.10 **News**. 8.15 **News**. 8.20 **News**. 8.25 **News**. 8.30 **News**. 8.35 **News**. 8.40 **News**. 8.45 **News**. 8.50 **News**. 8.55 **News**. 9.00 **News**. 9.05 **News**. 9.10 **News**. 9.15 **News**. 9.20 **News**. 9.25 **News**. 9.30 **News**. 9.35 **News**. 9.40 **News**. 9.45 **News**. 9.50 **News**. 9.55 **News**. 10.00 **News**. 10.05 **News**. 10.10 **News**. 10.15 **News**. 10.20 **News**. 10.25 **News**. 10.30 **News**. 10.35 **News**. 10.40 **News**. 10.45 **News**. 10.50 **News**. 10.55 **News**. 11.00 **News**. 11.05 **News**. 11.10 **News**. 11.15 **News**. 11.20 **News**. 11.25 **News**. 11.30 **News**. 11.35 **News**. 11.40 **News**. 11.45 **News**. 11.50 **News**. 11.55 **News**. 12.00 **News**. 12.05 **News**. 12.10 **News**. 12.15 **News**. 12.20 **News**. 12.25 **News**. 12.30 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Today's events

A sad sight: Mr Thomas Rochford taking a look at the African violets he can no longer afford to grow (Photograph: John Voors)

o living exhibition for the
landscaped and fitted

THE T

MES INFO

Stagnant plant prices that have hit Rochfords

NOON TODAY Pressure is shown in millibars

REWARD FOR INFORMATION

Largest	Los Angeles	6,439	Royals	7
Chicago	London	6,438	Rhodes	8
Begins	Madrid	6,437	Ripley	9

* Denotes Sunday's figures are latest available.